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THE REFORM DEMONSTRATIONS.

ALTHOUGH we did not see much to admire in the demonstration which took place in the streets of London last Monday afternoon, the demonstration by which it was followed the same evening in the House of Commons was equally open to criticism, though from an entirely opposite

point of view. The open-air demonstration was a feeble and unnecessary repetition of the Beaufort House affair—encored by the particular desire of the leaders and promoters. The sun, as has been beautifully observed, shone on the proceedings; though, if there was any particular meaning in that, it must be remembered that at the first demonstration the sun

obstinately refused to show itself at all. But ingenious papers like the *Star* have unanswerable arguments for all weathers. If a few thousand working men, members of trades unions and clubs, take a holiday on a Monday (which, by-the-way, is the constant custom with large numbers of them all over England), and turn out for a march, with ban-



THE O'DONOGHUE ADDRESSING THE REFORM MEETING IN THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

ners, bands of music, and other enlivenments, then, if it rains, they prove their determination and the righteousness of their cause by continuing their progress in spite of the wet, while, if it is a fine day, the sun proves the righteousness of their cause by shining upon them.

The real worthlessness of the Beaufort House as well as the Agricultural Hall demonstrations has consisted in the fact that neither of them possessed a representative character, while the numbers present were not sufficiently great to render this a matter of no importance. If every trade union in London had sent a deputation to Beaufort House the 150,000 working men who were to have proceeded there, or who, at least, were to have advanced in that direction, would virtually have been present; while, as it was, scarcely 15,000 were to be seen. We do not mean to pretend that there is any doubt as to what the opinions and views of the trades-unionists are in connection with the Reform question. All we say is, that a much more imposing demonstration might have been arranged on their behalf than either of the two that were actually made, and this without encumbering the streets and putting a stop to any of the ordinary business of London. The course of English politics cannot be greatly influenced by the marching and countermarching of a procession in which ten, or even fifteen thousand men, out of a population of three millions, take part.

Complaints were made in Parliament with reference to Monday's demonstration that the very day had been chosen for making it which the Government had fixed for bringing forward its scheme of reform. The fact, however, was that the Government chose for laying their resolutions before the House the very day, or rather the evening of that day, on which it had been already determined that the demonstration in the streets should take place. Indeed, Mr. Beales and Mr. Disraeli were rivals last Monday. The friends of Mr. Disraeli thought it unfair that Mr. Beales should ask in a quasi-turbulent manner in the morning for that "reform" which was actually to be offered at night; while the friends of Mr. Beales looked upon Mr. Disraeli as a mean-spirited person for trying to quiet the trades-unionists by holding out to them the prospect that a few hours after their demonstration had taken place a considerable portion of their demands would be granted. But whatever reception the Government resolutions may meet with at the hands of the House of Commons, it is quite certain that they will not satisfy, and doubtful whether they will even tranquillise for a time, those ardent and extreme Reformers whose banners, in last Monday's procession, proclaimed that the great objects of their wishes were "manhood suffrage" and "vote by ballot."

The present Government, of course, condemns manhood suffrage—as, for that matter, Earl Russell did in his first speech this Session, and as Mr. Gladstone also would do if forced to give a direct opinion on the subject. Even Lord Amberley—youngest, most chivalrous, but also most feeble of Reformers—does not go so far as manhood suffrage; and on this head the Beales party would meet with as much opposition from the professed Liberals of the House of Commons as from the Conservatives.

Vote by ballot is, in a certain way, proposed in the eleventh resolution, which sets forth "that it shall be open to every Parliamentary elector, if he thinks fit, to record his vote by means of a polling paper, duly signed and authenticated." The thorough-going supporters of the ballot, however, will never be contented with a mere permission for those to conceal their votes who do not like to give them openly. What they desire is to see the ballot imposed upon the whole electoral community. But by far the most important of the thirteen resolutions (fatal number!) is the one which deals with the great question of the reduction of the suffrage. "It is desirable," according to this elastic, but at the same time very tough, resolution, "that a more direct representation should be given to the labouring class;" thus asserting the principle that the labouring class is already represented in Parliament, though indirectly—labour, in fact, being represented in the House of Commons by capital. But, though it is desirable that the labouring class should be directly represented, "it is contrary to the Constitution of this realm to give to any one class or interest a predominating power over the rest of the community." The third resolution, in fact, declares that the suffrage ought to be lowered, but not to such an extent as to throw all political influence into the hands of the working classes. With that practical view the great bulk of moderate Reformers cannot fail to agree, whatever they may think of the theoretical assertion that it is contrary to the spirit of our Constitution to give a preponderance of power to any one interest.

But, if the suffrage is lowered to any very considerable degree, the evil against which the third resolution protests beforehand will certainly be brought about; while, if it is only lowered a very little, the cry will be raised that the bill is not an "honest bill," the Ministry will be ejected from office, and we shall have to wait another Session for this long-pending question of Reform to be settled. Mr. Disraeli ought to have laid a definite proposition before the House. Everybody just now wants to lower the suffrage without degrading it—as everybody wants "liberty without license," "Government without despotism," and other evidently desirable things. The great point is, how far in lowering the suffrage the Government wish to go? Until we know this, we really know nothing of their scheme.

THE WEIGHT OF TOBACCO consumed in the United Kingdom in the year 1841 was less than 14 oz. per head of the population; in 1851 it had risen to a fraction over 1 lb. per head; in 1861 it was 1 lb. 3½ oz.; in 1863, 1 lb. 4½ oz.; in 1864, 1 lb. 4½ oz.

THE REFORM-LEAGUE DEMONSTRATION.

(From the Times.)

THE Reform-League demonstration went off on Monday quietly and in perfect order. From first to last nothing occurred to mar the perfect harmony of the gathering or disturb the good order and good temper with which it was carried on throughout. Yet, judged by the standard of the procession of last December, it was, comparatively speaking, a failure as a "great demonstration." The trades unions evidently know how to manage these things better than the Reform League, and their last display was, both in numbers, in public interest, and in its main features more imposing by far than that of Monday. There are many reasons which quite account for this falling off in attendance without at all showing that the people are indifferent to the question of Reform. In the first place, it was a second attempt to do what had been well done already; next, there is a more or less widely-spread feeling of dislike to these demonstrations when the whole question is awaiting its solution; and, lastly, the great mass of the operatives are not now, after a hard winter, in a position to throw away the chance of a day's work. Perhaps each of these causes taken singly might not account for much, but in the aggregate they told in a diminution of at least one fourth from the numbers of those who attended the last procession. What, however, was wanting in numerical strength was gained in the regularity and good order of the different sections. At first starting, great and even serious confusion seemed likely to occur, more from the pressure of the spectators than from any fault of the "Leaguers" themselves. But after a short time and some interruption this was remedied, and the whole column at last got off in really good order along its line of route, which, except for the width of its thoroughfares, was, probably, one of the least convenient and circuitous that could have been chosen for the purpose. Trafalgar-square was the general rendezvous, and here, soon after twelve o'clock an immense concourse of spectators had assembled. Every part of the open space, every window, every housetop, all along the balustrade of the National Gallery, all the railings and even the very windows of St. Martin's Church were thronged. Not since the great entry of Garibaldi into London has Trafalgar-square worn such an aspect. At the lowest computation not fewer than from 50,000 to 60,000 spectators were assembled in and round it. Yet there was really very little to see, and nothing that was much worth seeing at all beyond the great masses of spectators themselves, who made the real show. The few sections of processionists who had yet arrived were in the centre of the square, and formed, so to speak, but a thread among the multitude; but they kept themselves together, and were remarkable for the steadiness with which they maintained their ranks, though allowing all facilities for the public to pass between them. By one o'clock the traffic, which had been always more or less impeded, became so dangerously mixed up in the crowd that it was brought to a dead standstill; and from this time forth the few mounted police who were stationed at the streets which intersected the intended line of route did good service—to the procession, at least—by stopping the traffic till it had passed. How far the thousands of passengers of all ranks who were thus locked up for a long time in byways and side-roads appreciated this vigilance of the constabulary is very doubtful. No extra force of police appeared to be employed, and, in fact, none seemed necessary. The crowd, though very large, was perfectly good-tempered; and, with the exception of some gangs of "roughs," who now and then tried to vary the monotony of looking on by "bonneting" a bystander here and there, there was nothing to be seen very different from the usual conduct of lookers-on at an opening of Parliament or a Lord Mayor's Show. There was the usual boisterous sale of medals, programmes, paper cockades, paper feathers, false noses, &c. Negro minstrels and acrobats were in side streets, and did a thriving business; and, in fact, till two o'clock there was in Trafalgar-square only a London crowd, very large, sometimes a little boisterous, but always good-humoured. Towards two o'clock the different divisions began to arrive, marching in sections of four, six, or eight, with bands playing and colours flying. Some had assembled in Portland-place, others from Clerkenwell and Stepney. A large party had mustered in Lincoln's-inn-fields, another in Birdcage-walk, while others came from Leicester and Russell squares and from streets leading down southward from the Strand to the river. All came up in very good order, keeping their lines well and marching quickly, though the high wind made it difficult work for the banner-bearers to stagger along under the huge folds of silk which they bore aloft. As the different sections converged upon the square they got mixed with each other and the people, and there was for a time a prospect of considerable confusion; but the steadiness of the processionists themselves averted this, and, on the whole, they got along admirably. Shortly before two o'clock the members of the council of the league came down the Strand in open carriages. They were received with great cheering by the assembled sections, who in return were exhorted by the members of the council to preserve strict good order and silence on their line of march—injunctions which it is mere justice to say were followed to the very letter. The advice, however, was at this time rendered very necessary, for between one and two o'clock the outskirts of the crowd had begun to be fringed with some of the lowest class of "roughs," who were evidently ready for anything which might turn up in case of confusion. Fortunately, no chance was given them in this respect, and at half-past two the sections began to move from the square. The route of the procession was from Trafalgar-square, by Pall-mall, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, Regent-street, Langham-place, Portland-place, Park-crescent, Euston-road, Pentonville-road, to the Agricultural Hall, Islington.

The mounted farmers made a good opening to the procession; for they looked well, rode well, and, as a rule, were well mounted. Beyond this there is little to say in praise of the actual display. The banners were not nearly so numerous or so good as those shown last December. The best belonged to the regular trade societies; those which had been improvised for the occasion were not good, and their mottoes were trite and commonplace. A ballot-box was carried before a banner bearing the legend, "Tories, be warned;" and a quarter loaf, wonderfully and fantastically decorated with evergreens and surmounted with a large inscription that it was the staff of life, excited quite as much merriment as surprise. One section carried a black flag, with the words "The Merchant Shipping Act," and on another was painted "Wanted, a Bright Cabinetmaker—no Adullamites need apply." Here and there came a van, from which the occupants sold tickets of admission to the Hall at 2d. each; but apparently the trade in these was small.

The progress through St. James's-street and Piccadilly presented no feature of change. Indeed, the march along the whole route was monotonous, and attended by little worthy of record. The traffic was carried on with very little inconvenience or confusion, and without impeding the course of the processionists, except at some points where they were obliged to stop in order to relieve the blocked lines of vehicles which were drawn up in the streets leading off those traversed by the participants in the demonstration. At the lower circus of Regent-street a considerable cluster of people had collected, and both sides of the Quadrant were lined with spectators, though it was always possible to make easy way along the pavement. On the roadway cabs and omnibuses plied as usual, and there was always room for the passage of two vehicles abreast. "To keep silent" had been sedulously impressed on the processionists, and at no time was any manifestation of hostility evinced against any class.

The advanced guard emerged from Park-crescent into the Euston-road at about four o'clock, half the distance from Trafalgar-square to the Agricultural Hall having been then traversed. From this to Islington the roads presented a more crowded appearance than at any other part along the line of march. At some points the throng was so close that, since there were so many obstacles to motion above, the subterranean means of locomotion afforded by the Metropolitan Railway were largely adopted with a view to heading the procession before it arrived at King's-cross. Nothing worthy of notice occurred until the Angel was reached, at a quarter past five, when the marshals began to form their men in order that they might

make their way with as much facility as possible to the point of destination. An immense concourse had congregated in the vicinity of the Agricultural Hall, among whom thieves and pickpockets were evidently well represented, for several most impudent robberies were committed during the afternoon, among the sufferers being two of the deputation from the Leeds Reform League, who were despoiled of their watches while passing into the building.

The hall was brilliantly lit by immense circular gaseliers and embellished with the decorations with which it has been recently enriched for the purposes of equestrian spectacles. Shortly after six the procession began to enter, and for half an hour there was an uninterrupted flow of fresh arrivals. At twenty minutes past six the twopenny seats in the galleries were filled, and a considerable number of processionists had taken up their positions in the body of the hall. Then began a scene of confusion so wild and general that it appeared as if nothing could allay it. The barriers erected to divide the different classes of seats were overstepped; and those who had paid 2d. for admission made their way, amid cheers from the galleries and groans from the floor, to the places reserved for the holders of five-shilling and guinea tickets. Collisions between the officials appointed to keep order and the "roughs" who had got inside were frequent; and at one time apprehensions were entertained lest the whole proceedings might be stopped by the continuance of the excitement. New additions were made every moment to the numbers within the hall, and no one who saw the dense mass swaying to and fro would have imagined that it could in any reasonable time be reduced to order. The smell rising up from the sawdust scattered on the floor and the fumes of tobacco-smoke was almost intolerable. The heat became stifling, and not all the oratorical exertions of one of the marshals, who ascended the rostrum, could induce the stout claimants of their rights to forego their accustomed recreation. Then came another crush and a *mêlée*, and the bell used for summoning Mr. Sanger's horses to the arena called the assembled patriots to order. The excitement slowly subsided; there was the deep murmur which always prevails when thousands are collected together in an inclosed space; but this rose into a loud cheer when the leaders of the Reform League appeared upon the platform erected for the speakers.

The president of the league, Mr. Beales, M.A., took the chair. The following resolutions were adopted, the principal speakers being Professor Rogers, of Oxford; The O'Donoghue; Mr. T. B. Potter, M.P.; Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P.; Mr. Ernest Jones, Professor Beasley, and, of course, Mr. Edmond Beales:—

1. That this meeting consider it their duty to distinctly declare that no measure for the improvement of the representation of the people in Parliament will be satisfactory which is not based upon the principle of the people themselves being directly and personally so represented, instead of such representation being only virtual and sectional, and that such direct and real representation can only be effected by means of residential and registered manhood suffrage protected in its free and honest exercise by the ballot.
2. That this meeting desires most earnestly to press upon the Liberal members of the House of Commons the absolute necessity, as they regard the peace and welfare of the country, of not consenting to any measure of Reform designed to evade the full and just rights of the people to be directly represented in their own branch of the Legislature.
3. That, in the opinion of this meeting, the statements made in the House of Commons this evening on the subject of reform in the representation of the people in Parliament are eminently unsatisfactory, and complete the proof of the present Government being unworthy of the confidence of the country.

Our Engraving depicts the most interesting point of the proceedings: the moment when The O'Donoghue informed the meeting that "he had just come from the House of Commons, and that the Government had not introduced a reform bill."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Great indignation has been created in Paris by the publication of a circular of the Postmaster-General instructing his officials to open any letters in order to discover copies of a manifesto of Count de Chambord. It was hoped that the Government would have disavowed the document; but instead of that it has adopted it, and sent a "communiqué" to the *Gazette de France* maintaining the principle that at the discretion of a prefect of police a general prying into letters may be indulged in by post-office servants. The press and the public are unanimous in their outcry against this infringement of the law, and it is thought that when the Chambers meet it will lead to the downfall of M. Rouher and his illiberal colleagues.

SPAIN.

The Government has recalled the decree of exile lately issued against Marshal Serrano, and will grant a similar favour to other persons recently exiled who shall solicit it.

ITALY.

The Italian Government have been defeated in the Chamber of Deputies by a majority of two; not, however, upon the Church Bill, which everyone expected would break them up, but upon a question as to the right of public meeting. The Parliament has been dissolved, and the new Chambers will meet on March 23.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Chambers were closed, on Saturday last, by a Speech from the King in person. His Majesty thanked the Chambers for their co-operation with the Government, and expressed a hope that the conflict between the Ministry and the deputies would not be renewed; adding that the Diet, by granting what had been required for the army and navy, had proved itself determined to preserve what the country had gained. His Majesty further expressed hopes that the new provinces would soon assimilate themselves with the rest of the monarchy. He concluded his speech as follows:—"The fact that the draught of the Constitution for the North German Confederation has been accepted by all the Governments gives us the assurance that, from the principle of a united organisation, the German people will obtain those blessings which, through its inherent power and civilisation, it has been designed by Providence to enjoy from the moment that it is in a position to maintain peace at home and abroad. I shall deem it my greatest honour if the Almighty has called me to devote the strength of my people to the establishment of the lasting unity of the races and princes of Germany. May God assist us in attaining this object!" His Majesty was loudly cheered. The draught of the new Constitution for North Germany was settled on Saturday by the plenipotentiaries, and the treaty was subsequently signed by the Minister of State.

The elections of deputies to the North German Parliament, as far as at present known, have in great part proved favourable to the Liberal party.

AUSTRIA.

The new Austrian Ministry, it seems, is not to be completed until after the opening of the Reichsrath. The Austrian Government is desirous to ascertain the views of the Reichsrath, and to appoint a Ministry which shall be sure to command a majority.

The following is believed to be a correct list of the nominations for the proposed Hungarian Ministry:—President and Minister of War, Count Julius Andrássy; Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count George Festetics; Minister of Finance, M. Melchior Longay; Minister of the Interior, Baron de la Venkheim; Minister of Public Worship, Baron Joseph Eotvos; Minister of Justice, M. Balthasar Horvath; Minister of Commerce, M. Somssich.

TURKEY.

A new Ministry has just been formed at Constantinople, of which Aali Pacha is the Grand Vizier and Fuad Pacha the Foreign Minister. It is supposed that this change is preliminary to some important concessions to the Christian subjects of the Porte.

EGYPT.

The Viceroy of Egypt has demanded from the Porte four additional rights, viz.:—1, The right of assuming the title of Caliph of

Egypt; 2, of striking coin in his own name; 3, of increasing the strength of the Egyptian army to 100,000 men; 4, of appointing officers to the highest rank of Múshir. These demands are considered equivalent to Egyptian independence of the Porte.

THE UNITED STATES.

An Atlantic cable telegram, dated New York, Monday evening, states that Mr. Banks and other Republicans were advocating the necessity of the adoption of some measure to secure the President's co-operation with Congress. In the meanwhile the Judiciary Committee were deliberating on the impeachment of Mr. Johnson, and the Radicals of the General Butler class were said to be urging the impeachment of General Grant.

The bill for the admission of Nebraska in Congress as a State of the Union had been passed by the Senate over the President's veto.

The Reconstruction Committee of Congress had reported a bill for dividing the States which took part in the rebellion into five military districts, under military governments.

The Judiciary Committee continued their deliberations on the impeachment of President Johnson with closed doors. It was reported that General Butler and other Radicals advise the impeachment of General Grant.

The States of Louisiana and Mississippi had both rejected the Constitutional amendment.

MEXICO.

Confusion appears to reign supreme in Mexico. By last accounts we learn that the Republican authorities had executed the American Consul at Mazatlan, and, repatriation being refused, the commander of an American gun-boat had bombarded the town. It was reported that the Emperor Maximilian was levying a forced loan.

THE WEST INDIES.

We have intelligence from Jamaica to the 18th ult. In several districts the negroes had struck for higher wages, asserting that Queen Victoria had ordered them to do so. The rebellion of the Indians in Honduras had not been suppressed; but reinforcements were being sent to the scene of disturbance.

OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

SPEECH OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

THE French Chambers were opened on Thursday by the Emperor in person, who delivered the following speech:—

Messieurs les Sénateurs,—
Messieurs les Députés,—
Since your last session serious events have arisen in Europe. Although they may have astonished the world by their rapidity as by the importance of their results, it appears that, according to the anticipations of the Emperor, there was a fatality in their fulfilment. Napoleon said at St. Helena:—"One of my great ideas has been the agglomeration and concentration of the same nations, geographically considered, who have been scattered piecemeal by revolutions and policy. This agglomeration will take place sooner or later by the force of circumstances. This impulse is given, and I do not think that, after my fall and the disappearance of my system, there will be any other great equilibrium possible than the agglomeration and confederation of great nations."

The transformations that have taken place in Italy and Germany pave the way for the realisation of this vast programme of the union of the European States in one sole confederation. The spectacle of the efforts made by the neighbouring nations to assemble their members, scattered abroad for so many centuries, cannot cause disquiet to a country like ours, all the parts of which are irrevocably bound up with each other, and form a homogeneous and indestructible body. We have been impartial witnesses of the struggle which has been waged on the other side of the Rhine. In presence of this conflict the country strongly manifested its wish to keep aloof from it. Not only did I defer to this wish, but I used every effort to hasten the conclusion of peace. I did not arm a single additional soldier—I did not move forward a single regiment; and yet the voice of France had influence to arrest the conqueror at the gates of Vienna. Our mediation effected an arrangement between the belligerents, which, leaving to Prussia the fruit of her successes, maintained the integrity of the Austrian territory, with the exception of a single province, and, by the cession of Venetia, completed Italian independence. Our action has been exercised, therefore, with the view of justice and conciliation. France has not drawn the sword, because her honour was not at stake and because she had observed a strict neutrality. In another part of the globe we have been obliged to employ force to redress legitimate grievances; and we have endeavoured to raise an ancient empire. The happy results at first obtained were compromised by an inauspicious concurrence of circumstances.

The guiding idea of the Mexican expedition was an elevated one. To regenerate a people, and implant among them ideas of order and progress; to open vast outlets to our commerce, and leave the recollection of services rendered to civilisation to mark our path—such was my desire and yours. But as soon as the extent of our sacrifices appeared to me to exceed the interests which had called us across the ocean, I spontaneously determined upon the recall of our army corps. The Government of the United States comprehend that want of conciliation had embittered relations, which for the welfare of both countries should remain friendly. In the East troubles have arisen; but the great Powers are acting in concert to bring about a state of things which may satisfy the legitimate wishes of the Christian populations, reserve the rights of the Sultan, and prevent dangerous complications. At Rome we have faithfully executed the Convention of the 15th of September. The Government of the Holy Father has entered into a fresh phase. Left to itself, it maintains itself by its proper strength—by the veneration which is felt by all towards the head of the Catholic Church, and the surveillance loyally exercised upon his frontiers by the Italian Government. But if some demagogic conspiracies should audaciously seek to threaten the temporal power of the Holy See, Europe, I do not doubt, would not permit the accomplishment of an event which would cause such great perturbation in the Catholic world.

I have only to congratulate myself upon my relations with foreign Powers. Our connection with England becomes daily more intimate by the similitude of our policy and the multiplicity of our commercial relations. Prussia seeks to avoid everything which might arouse our national susceptibilities, and agrees with us upon the chief European questions. Russia, inspired by conciliatory intentions, is not disposed to separate her policy in the East from that of France. The same is the case with the empire of Austria, the greatness of which is indispensable to the general equilibrium. A recent commercial treaty has created new ties between the two countries. Lastly, Spain and Italy are upon terms of sincere agreement with us.

Thus, therefore, nothing in present circumstances need arouse our uneasiness; and I entertain the firm conviction that peace will not be disturbed.

Assured of the present, and trusting in the future, I have thought the time had arrived to develop our institutions. You have expressed your wishes to me every year that this should be effected; but, being justly convinced that progress can only be accomplished by complete harmony between the powers of the State you had placed in my hands—and I thank you for your confidence—the privilege of deciding upon the moment when I might think the realisation of your desires possible. Now, after fifteen years of calm and prosperity, due to our common efforts and to your profound devotion to the institutions of the empire, it has appeared to me that the time has come to adopt the liberal measures which lay in the minds of the Senate and the aspirations of the Corps Législatif. I respond to your expectations; and, without departing from the constitution, I propose to you laws which offer new guarantees for political liberty.

The nation, which does justice to my efforts, and which again recently, in Lorraine, gave such touching proofs of its attachment to my dynasty, will make a wise use of these new rights. Justly jealous of its repose and of its prosperity, it will continue to disdain the dangerous utopias and excitements of parties. For you, Gentlemen, the immense majority of whom have constantly sustained my courage in the always difficult task of governing a people, you will continue to be with me the faithful guardians of the true interests and the veritable greatness of the country.

These interests impose upon us obligations we shall know how to fulfil. France is respected abroad. The army has displayed its valour; but the conditions of war being changed require the increase of our defensive forces, and we must organise ourselves in such a manner as to be invulnerable. The bill upon this subject, which has been studied with the greatest care, lightens the burden of the conscription in time of peace, offers considerable resources in time of war, and redistributing burdens between all in a fair proportion, thus satisfies the principles of equality. It possesses all the importance of an institution of the country, and, I feel convinced, will be accepted with patriotism.

The influence of a nation depends upon the number of men it is able to put under arms. Do not forget that neighbouring States impose upon themselves far heavier sacrifices for the effective constitution of their armies, and have their eyes fixed upon us to judge by your resolutions whether the influence of France shall increase or diminish throughout the world. Let us constantly keep our national flag at the same height. It is the most certain means of preserving peace, and that peace must be rendered fertile by alleviating misery and increasing general prosperity.

Heavy trials have assailed us in the course of the past year. Inundations and epidemics have desolated some of our departments. Benevolence has assuaged individual suffering, and credits will be asked of you to repair the disaster caused to public property. Notwithstanding these partial calamities,

the progress of general prosperity has not relaxed. During the last financial period the indirect revenue has increased by fifty millions, and foreign commerce by upwards of one milliard, of francs. The general improvement of our finances will soon allow us to give satisfaction upon a large scale to agricultural and economic interests, brought into light by the inquiry opened in all parts of the country. Our attention must then be turned to the reduction of certain burdens which weigh too heavily upon landed property, and which prevent the speedy completion of the channels of interior navigation, of our ports, our railways, and especially of cross roads, the indispensable agents for effective distribution of the produce of the soil.

Bills upon primary education and upon co-operative societies were submitted to you last Session; and I do not doubt you will approve the arrangements they set forth. They will improve the moral and material condition of the rural population and of the working classes in our great cities. Each year thus opens a new horizon to our meditation and to our efforts.

Our task at the present moment is to form the public manners to the practice of more liberal institutions. Hitherto, in France, liberty has only been ephemeral. It has not been able to take root in the soil because abuse has immediately followed use, and the nation rather preferred to limit the exercise of its rights than to endure disorder in ideas as in things. It is worthy of you and me to make a broader application of these great principles, which constitute the glory of France. Their development will not, as formerly, endanger the necessary prestige of authority. Power is now firmly based; and ardent passions, the sole obstacle to the expansion of our liberties, will become extinguished in the immensity of universal suffrage. I have full confidence in the good sense and patriotism of the people; and, strong in the right which I hold from them, strong in my conscience, which is solely desirous of good, I invite you to march with me with a firm step on the path of civilisation.

THE LATE SIR RICHMOND SHAKESPEAR.—A mural tablet to the memory of the late Sir Richmond Campbell Shakespear has been erected in the cloisters of the chapel at Charterhouse. The tablet is of the finest Carrara marble, in the purest Gothic form, quatrefoil, and richly wrought and illuminated. The site has been selected and presented by the Master, the Ven. Archdeacon Hale, and is near to those of Thackeray and Leech, with that of the Crimean and Indian officers to the west. A duplicate tablet has been sent out to be placed in St. Ann's Church, Indore, where Sir Richmond closed his career.

BOATING ON VENETIAN LAGOONS.

As our readers are aware, the vicinity of Venice is largely intersected by lagoons, over which the roads are principally built on piles, and which are not unfrequently traversed in boats. This practice has become more common since the departure of the Austrians, who threw great obstacles in the way of the free locomotion of the inhabitants. It is yet early in the season for boating excursions—at least it would be so with us here in England; but we must remember that they are able to manage these things differently in Venetia. It is not unfrequently the case that racing is indulged in by these aquatic parties, and something of the kind seems to be in the wind with those depicted in our Engraving. The crew of the nearest boat, however, appear to have been somewhat of laggards in getting off—in fact, seem to be still looking out for the signal to start; or perhaps they were more devout than their neighbours, and stayed to mutter an extra prayer or two at the shrine of "Our Lady of the Grotto," or some other sainted personage.

THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, CLEARWELL, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THIS edifice, which has been built by the Dowager Countess of Dunraven, and was consecrated on the 5th of April last, has been erected from the designs and under the superintendence of John Middleton, Esq., of Cheltenham. The church is built of the local red sandstone, with Bath stone dressings, and the style is that of the latter part of the thirteenth century. The site adjoins the road, and is near to the parish schools.

The plan of the church comprises nave, aisles, and chancel, with organ-chamber and vestry on the north side, and a tower and spire at the south-west angle. The length of the nave is 61 ft. 3 in., the width 20 ft. 6 in.; the width of the aisles is 10 ft. 6 in.; the length of the chancel is 34 ft. 3 in., and its width 17 ft.

The nave is divided from the aisles by a bold arcade of four bays on each side, supported by piers of blue and white stone in bands, circular on plan, with moulded bases and richly-foliated capitals. The division of each bay above the nave arcade is marked by a corbel with an angel supporting a marble shaft and foliated eap, which carries one of the principal trusses of the roof. Above the nave arcade is a clerestory, with rose windows, filled with elaborate tracery. The aisles are lighted by eight triplet-light windows.

The chancel is approached from the nave through a bold moulded archway, springing from a much higher level than the nave arcade and supported by carved corbels with clustered marble shafts and richly-foliated caps. The chancel is lighted by an east window with four lights, and two two-light windows on the south side. On the north side is an archway, boldly moulded, forming an opening into the organ-chamber. The chancel windows have elaborate internal arches, enriched with carvings of ball flowers and supported by marble shafts with foliated caps. In these arches, and also throughout the interior, the architect has taken advantage of the local facilities afforded for constructive polychrome, and has blended the blue and red forest stones with the white Bath stone. The effect is most pleasing, and is more especially striking in the case of the piers and arches of the nave arcade, the chancel arch, the window arches, credence table, and sedilia. The interior has also been improved by the mural decorations, the walls being banded with the blue forest stone, in slips 8 in. wide; and in the chancel these are all enriched with incised running patterns and foliations, filled in with various-coloured cements. Above the chancel arch are panels with diapered backgrounds, and containing the alpha, omega, and a richly-foliated cross, with passion-flower terminations.

The windows of the chancel are filled in with painted glass by Messrs. Hardman and Co. The east window represents the following Scripture subjects:—Christ bearing the Cross, the Agony in the Garden, Christ blessing Little Children, and St. Peter healing Æneas. This window has been erected by Lady Dunraven to the "honour of God" and in memory of her son, the Hon. Windham Henry Wyndham Quin. The reredos has also been erected to the memory of the same gentleman, by his widow, the Hon. Mrs. Wyndham Quin. Every part of it is richly ornamented. It was executed by Mr. Roddis, of Birmingham, and consists of three panels, with red and green marble shafts, with enriched arches and gables. These gables contain inlaid marble crosses, and the centre one is surmounted by a cross foliated with passion-flowers. The panels contain carved representations of the Crucifixion, Christ walking on the Sea, and Christ stilling the Waves. On the north side of the chancel arch is the pulpit. This is of Caen stone, with a forest stone base. It has detached marble shafts, with clustered caps, and is enriched with elaborate panels containing the Agnus Dei and the symbols of the four Evangelists, and eight medallions containing in circles the heads of the four Evangelists and the greater prophets. The background of the whole is diapered.

The baptistery is formed under the tower, which opens into the south aisle through an arch of massive character. The font is of Caen stone, octagonal on plan, supported by a shaft of polished red granite. Above the shaft is a cluster of water-lilies, and the sides of the font have panels containing the symbols of the four Evangelists, the Agnus Dei, Noah, Moses, and St. John the Baptist.

The tower is of three stages. The belfry has four two-light windows, deeply moulded, and having red stone shafts and carved caps. The spire, which is broached, rises from an enriched cornice. It is of red stone, with Bath-stone dressings and bands of blue stone. It is 120 ft. high, to the cross.

The church is entered from the west side of the nave, through a deeply-recessed doorway, enriched with blue stone in the arch and red granite shafts; and from the south side by a wood porch, with massive framing and elaborately-carved barge-boards. The roof is of a very high pitch throughout, and are covered with Broseley tiles. The roofs of the nave and aisles are open timber. In the chancel the roof has a boarded ceiling, polygonal in section, divided into panels, with moulded ribs, and decorated throughout in gold and colour. The church will seat more than 400 persons. The seats are open throughout. The chancel-seats and reading-desk are of oak, and are richly ornamented with carved decorations. The marbles used are Derby-

shire in the nave; Italian and Irish, mixed with serpentine, in the chancel and its arches.

THE CHOLMELEY SCHOOL AND CHAPEL, HIGHGATE.

MUCH interest is just now attached to the Cholmeley School, at Highgate, and no doubt the accompanying Engraving of the new buildings, and some details connected with the institution, will be acceptable to our readers.

The school of Sir Roger Cholmeley was founded in A.D. 1565, so that it is now in its 300th year. The sixteenth century, the era of our Reformation, was also the time of the foundation of most of our public schools—St. Paul's, Westminster, Harrow, Rugby, the Merchant Taylors', and Highgate; and nearly 200 smaller schools were all founded at that time.

Highgate School, founded and endowed by Sir Roger Cholmeley, Lord Chief Justice, in the reign of Edward VI., was, on April 6, 1565, incorporated by letters patent (granted at his request by Queen Elizabeth), in which it was ordained that "for the future there shall be one grammar school in Highgate, which shall be called the Free Grammar School of Sir Roger Cholmeley, Knight, for the perpetual education, bringing up, and instruction of boys and young men in the knowledge of grammar." The letters patent also appointed that there should continually be six governors of the school, who should have power to make rules and hold lands, &c., for it.

On April 27, the then Bishop of London, Edmund Grindal, granted to Sir Roger Cholmeley a small chapel that then existed in Highgate, and two acres of land around it (on which the school and the houses, extending some little distance beyond Castle-yard, now stand, in order that he might apply them to the benefit of the school.

In accordance with this grant, on June 7, Sir Roger Cholmeley conveyed this property, together with some lands in the city of London, in trust to the governors. Sir Roger died on the 21st of that same month. On Dec. 14, 1571, the governors obtained statutes for the government of the school. By these the number of scholars was fixed at forty (which is still the number on the foundation), who were to be inhabitants of either Highgate, Holloway, Hornsey, Finchley, or Kentish Town. The school was to be open from seven to eleven in the morning, and from one to five or six in the afternoon, which would now be thought very early and very long hours. The schoolhouse was begun to be erected, and the chapel to be rebuilt, in July, 1576, and were finished and opened in September, 1578. The name of the first master was Johnson Charle.

For nearly 200 years the intentions of Sir Roger Cholmeley were not carried out. The school, partly, perhaps, from the scanty population of the neighbourhood, and partly from the small amount of the income arising at first from the endowment, or from a classical education not being suitable to the situation in life of the then inhabitants of Highgate and the neighbourhood (from whose sons the forty boys on the foundation were to be elected), having gradually, in the course of about a century, degenerated into one for teaching only reading, writing, and arithmetic. The teaching of the school also was no longer carried on by the regular master, but by an usher appointed and paid by him, while the master himself was chiefly occupied in pastoral ministrations among the people of the neighbourhood. The school thus held something of the same position as the present national schools, and was attended almost exclusively by the children of the poor of the district. This state of things continued throughout the whole of the last century and the early part of this; and, as good schools for the poor were not then established, perhaps such a school met the requirements of the place at that time better than a classical school would have done, although it was wholly inconsistent with the intention of the founder and with the statutes made in 1571. Sir Roger Cholmeley clearly intended to found, not an elementary school—such as our present national schools—nor a commercial school, but a school where the classics, which are admitted by the best judges to be the safest foundation of a thorough mental training, should be the principal study. In the year 1819 the school was rebuilt, and the "Bell" or "Madras" system of education was introduced. The chapel, in the meanwhile, had been appropriated by the inhabitants as their church, for they had no other.

This state of affairs continued till about 1823, when the question was raised as to the right of the inhabitants to the use of the chapel as a parish church. The question, after being contested in the Court of Chancery till 1827, was decided against them by Lord Eldon. The governors of the Cholmeley School, however, in 1830, gave £2000 towards a fund for the erection of a new church, and the result was the building of the present parish church, St. Michael's, where the scholars of the school have up to this time had sittings in fulfilment of a condition attached to the grant.

In 1865, on occasion of the three hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the schools, a jubilee celebration took place, with which a new era commenced for the institution. The permanent memorials which it will leave behind will be new school-buildings, a new chapel, and a new library; and these are at once a tribute to the school's past success and an earnest of its future prosperity. The first is the undertaking of the governors, for they see that the school is outgrowing its accommodation; the second is the gift of the family of a late governor, Mr. G. A. Crawley, who desire thus to perpetuate a cherished memory in sacred connection with an institution in which their former head took an active interest; the third is the offering of old Cholmeleians.

The new buildings, which are expected to be finally completed in about two months, are situated on the top of Highgate-hill, opposite the well known Gate-house Tavern. The style of the edifice is an adaptation of the Gothic, and is constructed of red Suffolk brick, with Ancaster stone mouldings and dressings. The chapel is raised on arches over the old burial-ground, where repose the ashes of S. T. Coleridge. There will be a reredos of alabaster and coloured marbles, and fine stained-glass windows. The architect is Mr. F. P. Cockerell, whose estimate for the whole building is somewhat over £10,000. The school has been some time finished, and is now in full operation, under the able superintendence of the principal, Dr. Dyne, who has been connected with the institution since the year 1838, when there were only seventeen boys attending the school, at which 130 now receive tuition.

THE DESIGNS FOR THE NEW LAW COURTS.

(From the Daily News.)

THE designs for the Great Hall of Justice, which is to become the most important building of the metropolis in the vast thoroughfare of the Strand, and will occupy a frontage extending from the Church of St. Clement Danes to Temple Bar, are now completed, and exhibited to the public, under certain restrictions, at the temporary building for the purpose in Lincoln's-inn-square. The competing architects are Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, R.A.; Mr. E. M. Barry, A.R.A.; Mr. G. E. Street, A.R.A., F.S.A.; Mr. A. Waterhouse, Mr. R. Brandon, Mr. T. R. Deane, Mr. William Burges, Mr. H. F. Lockwood, Mr. J. P. Seddon, Mr. H. B. Gurling, and Mr. H. R. Abraham. Mr. Gibson was invited to contribute, but retired, not being able to complete a design. There are, therefore, eleven sets of designs exhibited, to each of which is allotted a distinct section of the little gallery, so that every architect has his own platform, and disposes of his plans and drawings to the best advantage, some having had large models executed and some models of the interior, showing the arrangement proposed for the courts, which must facilitate the understanding of the plans.

Mr. Gilbert Scott leads the exhibition with a grand design in mediæval style, which, to use the eminent architect's own words, "redeveloped and modified at all points, to meet the demands of the age, exactly symbolises the English law." Practically he thinks it affords everything, and this in the best way; and in considering his work he tells us he left the architectural treatment for four months after he had planned his building to be considered as a subordinate part of the design. We are unable to see, however, why this should be in a work which has such important relations aesthetically, and in looking at Mr. Scott's drawing of the whole building, it appears to us that he has sacrificed too much to the utilitarian view. His

building is composed in three divisions as it were—a central and principal mass, upon which he lavishes all his resources, with a projecting portico, and deep arcades lined with statues, two octagonal towers with open-worked turrets and spires, and a central dome. At each flank, so to speak, of this mass, and separated by a street at each end, come subordinate piles of building, that at the east end being disfigured by a long row of chimneys. The interior is very grandly designed, especially the domed hall, the ceiling of which would be painted in fresco, and the sides ornamented with bas-reliefs. We must confess to some disappointment in Mr. Scott's design, as far as its outward appearance is concerned; it wants dignity and impressiveness, even in the most important part, the central mass, which, though finely ornamented, and in excellent proportion of detail, is weak at the towers, which are somewhat trivial and over ornate.

Mr. Abraham's design is of the severer Italian-Gothic, without too much ornamental detail, a central-domed tower, and a lofty tower, at an angle with several minor towers, surmounted by quadrangular spires at varying distances around the building. The general effect of the building is good, some allowance being made for the tower, which seems unnecessarily high, and, on the whole, the architect has made a bold and successful effort to realise his intention, to show the high estimation of the laws of the land by enlightened and refined Englishmen of the nineteenth century. We remark a certain Oriental look about this design which is not quite agreeable.

Mr. Waterhouse's building is, again, in the Gothic style, the prominent features being two very lofty, and what we should call truncated towers, rising from each side of the general mass. There are also two other lofty towers and a clock tower, so that the general appearance presents rather too much of towers, and the high Flemish roofs. It should be understood, with regard to the somewhat profuse employment of towers, that the instructions required certain towers to be provided as the best and safest depositories for records. Two principal towers, we believe, were mentioned expressly—one for the safe keeping of wills, the other for the copies of wills.

The other towers would be used for keeping the many important documents. We should add, in reference to Mr. Waterhouse's design, that it implies the removal of St. Clement Danes'

church, as well as Temple Bar. This last-named monument of old London and of the art of Sir Christopher Wren, we are sorry to say, appears to be doomed—at least to removal, though we hope not to

parts in the windows, and brackets under the cornice, with the massive basement and buttresses below, surmounted by statues, has much of the sober beauty indispensable to a grand

destruction or to any dark limbo. Mr. Scott intercedes for it while proposing his new bridge across the Strand to the Temple; and Mr. Waterhouse proposes to place it across the new side street that will lead down to the new boulevard on the banks of the Thames, which would be a very proper way out of the difficulty.

Mr. E. M. Barry has designed a very richly-ornamented Gothic pile, with centre dome, surrounded with pinnacles and a lofty clock-tower. The view of this building from the Strand is extremely imposing, and the architect has shown more resource and sense of refinement than we have generally remarked.

Mr. Street is even a more determined advocate of Gothic than in his National Gallery designs; and we regret to say that he fails to convince us of its applicability, in this particular form at least, which he prefers.

Mr. Brandon's design has a central hall, surmounted by an elegant spire, the interior of which would resemble the nave of Westminster Abbey. It has a lofty clock-tower, at an angle standing separate from the building, and near the covered bridge, which all the designs have, leading into the Temple.

Mr. Burges has contributed by far the most beautiful set of drawings to the exhibition, and his design makes a really magnificent building in the Italian-Gothic castellated style, with the towers machicolated and turreted. The idea suggested by such a building is "defence," which, though highly necessary in "Doe v. Roe," is by no means in accordance with the calm attitude of the spirit of law and justice. Mr. Burges has undoubtedly distinguished himself in the competition, and done enough to convince us that we ought to be guided in these undertakings a good deal by the capability a man may display, although his design may be unsuitable.

Mr. Garling contributes two designs similar, but different in some important respects, and to our taste his alternative design, omitting the two Oriental-looking domes at the west end, is by far the best. It should be called Italian Renaissance in style, though the three light windows are pointed and have something of the character of Gothic. The façade, in its long repetition of similar



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CLEARWELL, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—(J. MIDDLETON, ESQ., ARCHITECT.)



BOATING ON VENETIAN LAGOONS.

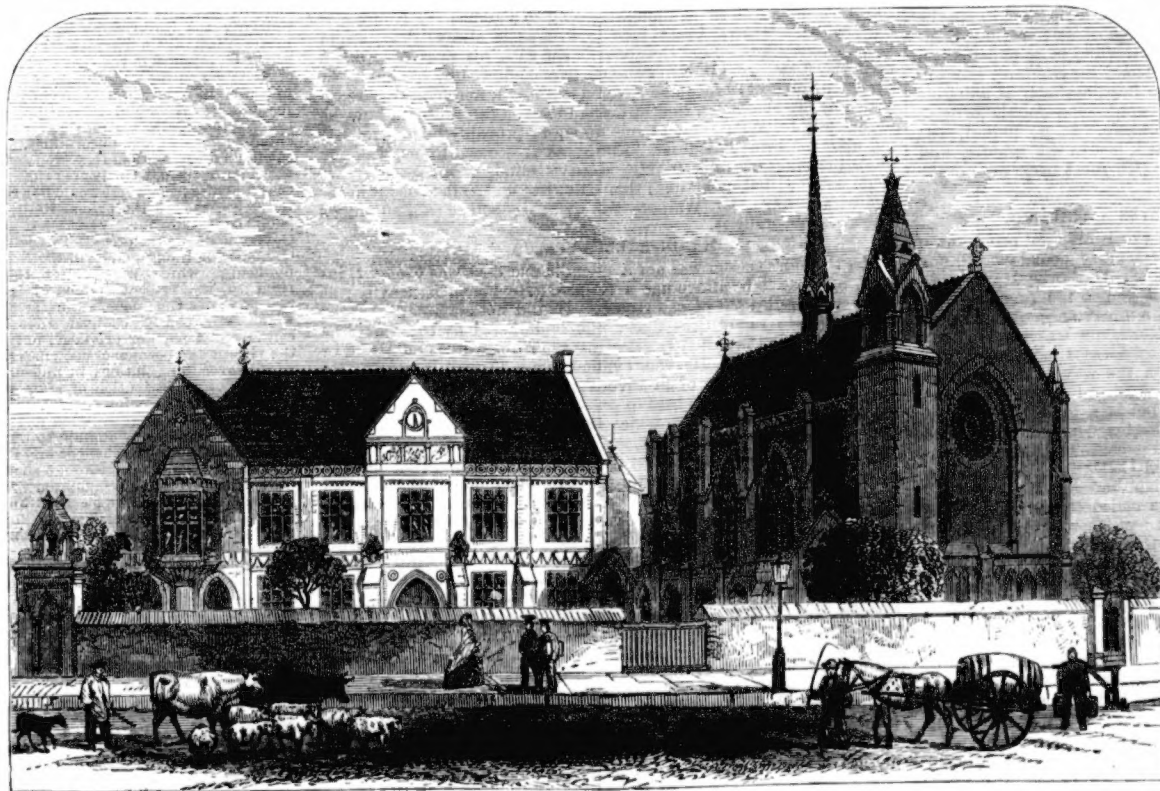


THE EXHIBITION OF THE DESIGNS AND MODELS FOR THE NEW LAW COURTS IN LINCOLN'S-INN

building. The towers introduced at good intervals, and at the angles, are not so ambitious-looking as in some of the designs, and altogether the building is impressive, and at the same time handsome and in good taste. Mr. Garling dispenses with the central hall, and adopts the corridor as a great means of intercommunication; the recesses in his corridor, he thinks, would afford convenient places for loungers or those engaged in the business of the courts. The roofs of the towers in both these designs is the sharply pitched roof of the French buildings, which is now somewhat in vogue amongst our architects; but nothing can make it English, and it is not suited to any civic structure in our towns.

Mr. Seddon has bestowed immense pains upon his design, which is Gothic. He has furnished a large model of the whole building, besides two of the largest drawings in the exhibition, one representing the grand suitors' hall he proposes, and which would certainly be a very fine feature. As a whole, however, we find this immense pile of building wants unity and compactness.

Mr. Lockwood proposes a quadrangular building, with very lofty centre spire. In his interior he would make use of ornamental metal work to a



CHOLMELEY SCHOOL AND CHAPEL AT HIGHGATE.—(F. P. COTTERELL, ESQ., ARCHITECT.)

large extent; and this, we fear, would give a certain triviality incompatible with the purpose of the building.

Mr. T. N. Deane's design appears to meet all the practical requirements of the commission, but to our unprofessional eye it wants the ornamental as well as the useful.

It would be impossible for us to enter into the discussion of the respective merits of the competitors as to the distribution of the space, and the various contrivances for subways and other communications with the immense building. The very complete drawings exhibited by all prove how much attention has been given by the architects to this part of their designs. As to the cost of this vast national building, the sum was, we believe, left within certain limits to the architects, and none have exceeded a million and a half, while some have estimated the cost of their designs at a little more than a million. The sum named to Parliament was £750,000.

The following gentlemen are the judges of designs:—The Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P.; the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.; the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Cockburn, Bart. (Lord Chief Justice); Sir Roundell Palmer, M.P.; and Sir W. Stirling Maxwell Stirling, M.P.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 292.

SKIRMISH BETWEEN OUTPOSTS.

THE war between the two great political parties—the Ins and the Outs—began on Thursday night last week. Up to that time there had been a truce—an armed truce, it might be; but whilst it lasted there was a friendly intercourse of a certain sort between the belligerents—much like the shaking of hands between two pugilists before a set-to. But on Thursday the truce came to an end, and we had what we may call a preliminary skirmish between advanced parties, indicating that the truce was at an end. The skirmish, though, was but a slight affair. There was no blood drawn; the parties only, as it were, crossed swords and exchanged a few harmless passes. But clearly a serious *casus belli* has turned up, and what is equally clear, a hand-to-hand fight is near. To drop our metaphor, on Thursday night Sir Stafford Northcote, President of the Board of Trade, brought in No. 1 of the bills mentioned in the Royal Speech—"a bill to make better provisions for the arrangement of the affairs of railway companies unable to meet their engagements"—London, Chatham, and Dover, &c. These railways are in a dreadful mess, as we know; have not paid dividends to shareholders for a long time; cannot, some of them, now pay debenture-holders either principle or interest; have got themselves, indeed, into the strangest imbroglio or tangled snare; threatening, if something be not done, to stop not only payment, but running. This tangled snare, then, Sir Stafford attempts in this bill to disentangle; or, like a *Deus ex machina*, a god from the clouds, to reduce, as Carlyle would say, this chaos to a cosmos—this dire confusion to order. For every wrong there is a remedy, says the old legal saw. For this wrong there is, though, no remedy. Go to, then! Our *Deus* shall make one. Of course, this bill was looked for with great interest by the railway world; and when Sir Stafford rose to propound his scheme he found himself confronted by a strong body of railway magnates. Notably, Mr. Watkin was there—a man, perhaps, who has more railways under his control than any other person living. To Mr. Watkin may indeed be given the punning title which was awarded to M'Adam—to wit, "the Colossus of Roads." Mr. Laing, too, was present. He, as our readers will remember, was for some years chairman of the Brighton line, which he is said to have pulled through formidable difficulties; and he has lately taken in hand the almost desperate case of the Great Eastern. He it was, too, who went to India to pull the coil of Indian finance straight, and did it; though Sir Charles Wood, the Indian Secretary at the time, would not believe that he had. A formidable man Mr. Laing will prove if he should happen to oppose this measure, as men say he will. We caught a glimpse, too, of Sir Morton Peto, lately returned from Algeria. He, however, is for the present hors-de-combat. The hon. gentleman looks, though, notwithstanding all his troubles, uncommonly well, and even lively. Then, in the front rank of the Opposition, the greatest living financier, Mr. Gladstone, keenly watches the unrolling of this important scroll, which is to effect such wonders. Mr. Milner Gibson, the late President of the Board of Trade, sat near Mr. Gladstone, his sharp, clear-cut face standing well out, as we saw it, in profile. He, of course, would listen with deep attention to the speech of his successor in office; for, according to our well-known party customs, it is his duty sharply to criticise, if not to damage, all measures which come from the usurper of his place. Then, last, not least, there was Sir Roundell Palmer, perhaps, on the whole, the most formidable man of all; for he has been retained in the case of the London, Chatham, and Dover, and knows all the bearings of it. Moreover, he is a great lawyer, perhaps the greatest now in the House, and, as such, a keen, remorseless critic when he takes upon himself to anatomise a bill. That he will oppose this measure he subsequently told us. Everybody knew that, though, before he spoke; for Sir Roundell's expressive countenance, like that of his close friend Gladstone, reveals every working of his mind—mirth, anger, surprise, doubt, may all be seen there, as in a glass, not darkly, as they successively arise in the mind within.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Sir Stafford's, then, was a very formidable task, with the eyes of such a phalanx of keen critics upon him. He began, however, his work bravely, the keen eyes notwithstanding. He is naturally a brave man. He hunts; and it is said that, though he is very near-sighted and obliged to wear strongly-magnifying glasses, he refuses nothing in the field. In the House he is the same. There he refuses nothing. He has often crossed swords with his "right hon. friend" the late Chancellor of the Exchequer. Sir Stafford was once private secretary to Mr. Gladstone, and, though these two have long been political opponents, they have always in all their conflicts preserved the forms of friendship—the urbanities and amenities—though the friendship itself, from pressure of circumstances, can hardly be so close as it was in former days. This, however, by-the-way. Sir Stafford is, undoubtedly, a clever man, but his cleverness is of that kind which enables its possessor to detect small discrepancies, errors, and fallacies, and is not capacity in the strict meaning of the word. He can criticise details with skill; but we should say that he is hardly capable of comprehending a great financial scheme, the ultimate results of which may not develop themselves for a long time. Some have said that he is a good arithmetician, but not a financier; but this is, we think, giving him too little praise. As a speaker he is voluble, but not eloquent. He lacks imagination; hence his speeches want all that play of colour which Fancy can alone supply. He can express his meaning clearly enough, but he cannot enforce it by illustration; consequently his speeches are very dry. Moreover, he has an unpleasant, rasping voice, and he speaks monotonously—that is, always in one tone—with no "expression," as musicians would say. Whether he praise or blame, express sorrow or joy, his voice is always in the same key. He would deliver a speech at a wedding breakfast or a funeral oration in the same style. His courage is, though, remarkable. If he were not a very bold man, he would never have undertaken the forlorn hope of setting these complicated railway difficulties right. Much wiser and more experienced men than he have stood aghast before them. Sir Stafford, though, rushed at them as he would rush, in the hunting-field, at a double hedge. But will he clear them as he would the double hedge? Questionable; or, rather, hardly questionable. It is, indeed, the opinion of most men here that he is stuck fast in the middle, and that there is only one way of escape. He must back out, or, in plain English, drop his bill.

MR. GATHORNE HARDY ACHIEVES A TRIUMPH.

On Friday week the second measure of the Ministerial programme came before the House—to wit, a supplementary poor-law bill for the metropolis. It was introduced by Mr. Gathorne Hardy, the President of the Poor-Law Board; and it is not too much to say that the right hon. gentleman achieved a great success. Almost unanimously the bill of Sir Stafford Northcote was condemned; almost unanimously the bill of Mr. Hardy was applauded. The veriest grumbler in the House can only in the way of depreciation say, it is good as far as it goes. And now a word or two about Mr. Hardy himself. The right hon. gentleman is a landed proprietor, and he has availed himself of the best means which England can provide to make himself an accomplished gentleman. He was educated at Shrewsbury School, and at Oriel College, Oxford; and in 1835 he graduated B.A., not as a pass man, but as a class man, and was second in classics. In 1840 he was called to the Bar in the Inner Temple. He is, then, one would say, thoroughly furnished for his duties as a country gentleman; or, at all events, has availed himself of every opportunity to make himself so. In 1858 he was Under Secretary for the Home Department, and last year he became President of the Poor-Law Board and a member of the Cabinet. Mr. Hardy has long been known as a prominent debater upon special occasions in the House, though it cannot be said that his speaking was very effective. The vice of his oratory, like that of Sir Stafford Northcote, is wordiness, though he is a better speaker than Sir Stafford. Mr. Hardy has imagination, that essential to oratory; Sir Stafford has none. But Mr. Hardy spreads his thoughts over too wide a surface; dilutes them in a flood of words; beats his gold too thin, if gold it is; some say it is generally only

Dutch metal, after all. But let that pass. On Friday week, however, he somewhat restrained his tendency to volubility, and certainly his speaking was more effective. Two reasons may be alleged for this self-restraint. First, he spoke under a heavy sense of official responsibility; and, secondly, he had to stick closely to a very large and important question. In short, as a sportsman would say, he was heavily weighted, and could gallop neither so fast nor so wildly as he usually does. The bill it is not within our province to criticise. Competent authorities, it is sufficient to say, praise it. But will it pass? Alas! we fear not. There is a political storm, perhaps a hurricane, which will probably wreck it. This is one of the biots in our Constitution. Whilst politicians are wrangling, improvement is stopped. Pope says—

Wretches hang, that jaymen may dine.

And we may say, paupers starve, children are untought, and a host of other dire evils prevail unchecked, whilst politicians are struggling for place. This is a sore evil; but it cannot be cured so long as we have government by party, that almost divine thing, as Disraeli and Earl Russell believe it to be.

THE GREAT EVENT.

And now for the great event of the week—the letting the Reform cat out of the bag, by the Right Honourable Benjamin Disraeli, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Some of the papers tell us that there was not much excitement out of the House, and we must confess that we have seen more. But St. Stephen's Hall, where the holders of members' orders congregate, was, long before the House opened, quite as full as we ever saw it. In the outer lobby of the House of Commons there was at a quarter to four, when Mr. Speaker passed through, an inconveniently large crowd; and at the door of the House a cluster of peers, lay and ecclesiastical, so thick that Mr. Speaker and his cortège had but just room to pass. Had the cluster been composed, now, of mere commoners, the police would have swept it away; but there is a divinity doth hedge a peer, especially your ecclesiastical peer, from which policemen retreat with awe; and so the doorkeepers could do nothing but merely persuade these nobilities and right reverences to stand back, which they did, looking, as they packed themselves in double ranks close up against the wall (to the great danger of the rear rank's ribs and toes), much more like a crowd of gaping rustics assembled at a church-door to see a wedding procession than the high-born swells they were. For, as you know, readers, the divinity spoken of does not show itself in any outward and visible form; except, indeed, that of the bishops. In them it takes the form of shovel-hat and silk apron, and (somewhat less distinctly) in long gaiters. These are, however, not peculiar to bishops; nor is the shovel-hat, for that matter—as deans, and archdeacons, and other ecclesiastical *Dii minores*, wear—or, as a racing man would say, "sport"—this sort of top and lower gear.

THE APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE.

Thus much for the outside of the House, which inside was excessively crowded; we never saw it more so. First in order let us notice the Royal personages and the peers. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was there; he sat in the front seat of the Peers' Gallery, on the Government side of the House, with the Duke of Edinburgh on one side and Prince Teck on the other. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was on the same bench. In the Ambassadors' Gallery there was another sprig of royalty—royalty *de lege*, as he thinks, though not royalty *de facto*—to wit, the Count de Paris. Of bishops there was a fine array. There must surely have been at least a dozen of these venerable fathers of the Church present; and as to our noble patricians, they could not be counted. Indeed, so numerous were they, that, after filling their own benches below, they overflowed to the Diplomatic Gallery and filled that, then they took possession of the passage behind, whilst some of them got into the members' galleries. The Earl of Derby was not present; but Earl Russell was conspicuously so. He sat below, side by side with the Bishop of Oxford, with whom he occasionally chatted. The members were down in unusual strength. We calculated that about 550 were present. The House was crowded; and, when it is packed as it was then, that is about the number that it will hold. But think not, readers, that this number can find seats. There were at least fifty members standing at the bar and behind the Speaker's chair, whilst a dozen or so squatted in the gangways, with their hands clasped round their knees—not a very comfortable, nor yet a very dignified, position. Oh, Charles Barry! Charles Barry! how could you plan a chamber so small as to force the conscript fathers of this great nation to assume a position so uneasy and unbecoming? Fancy a learned Q.C., who will probably soon be a robed Justice, squatting down on his hams in this ridiculous fashion! and yet that was what Mr. Edward James had come to.

LETTING THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG.

Mr. Disraeli rose at about a quarter to five o'clock. He was greeted by a volley of cheers by his party, and when these had died away into silence he began, with great solemnity of manner, and, as it appeared to his audience, under an almost overwhelming sense of responsibility, to unbog his long-expected cat. His secret had, on the whole, been well kept; but still the colour and shape and breed of the animal had been shrewdly guessed. We had not seen the whole of it, but we had a glimpse of its tail; and from that, in the manner of Professor Owen, who from a bone reasons out inductively the form and the characteristics of the whole animal, we had arrived at the general character of the beast, now to be openly discovered. But still there was enough of uncertainty about the details to make the House deeply attentive. The Cabinet—nearly every member of which was present—of course knew the secret, and it was curious to watch their countenances whilst Disraeli was speaking. Prominent was Lord John Manners. His face was radiant with smiles, indicating, as it seemed to us, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was, as he thought, going to astonish the House not a little. Old General Peel's face looked, as it always does, stolid and expressionless. Lord Cranbourne sat with his eyes cast down upon the floor and his countenance overshadowed by his hat. Sir Stafford Northcote's face is so covered with hair, and his eyes so concealed by his spectacles, that at a distance you can't discern how he looks. Sir John Pakington made no sign; probably he was reflecting upon his own difficulties. Doubt, as it seemed to us, was the most prominent feeling in Mr. Hardy's mind. Lord Stanley we could not see; but no matter: that cold, passionless face of his never indicates feeling. Mr. Walpole was evidently serene as a summer's eve, as he generally is.

MR. DISRAELI'S SPEECH.

Mr. Disraeli's speech was not a splendid success—was thought, indeed, by some to be altogether a failure. He laboured heavily; at times he travelled out of the record. He did not stammer for want of words. He rarely does that; but he lingered at times as if he were in his mind fastidiously selecting the right words and afraid of choosing the wrong. He was evidently not entirely at ease. He had the air and manner of an advocate who knows that he has a bad case, and yet must do his best to prove that it is good. He was presenting a dish to the House which he suspected would be nauseous to a great part of the members, and, perhaps, was not exactly to his own taste. In short, he was, as it seemed to us, speaking not *con amore*, nor from the heart—forced by duty, and not impelled by inspiration; and here we may say that Mr. Disraeli often speaks in this laboured manner when he is on the Treasury Bench. On the Opposition Bench he is much more animated. Nor is this surprising. He has been in the House of Commons nearly thirty years, and only three in office. He has never, therefore, been thoroughly broken to the official drag. Moreover, he is of the Semitic race, which never took kindly to restraint. In Opposition he is like the fabled Pegasus—the Muses' winged horse. On the Government bench he is the same, but bit and cruppers with a dead weight of bucolic dulness behind him—in short, a Pegasus in harness. Now and then he flashed out his own nature, and evoked cheers; but, on the whole, it was a dull speech. And what a little it revealed! There was never a finer example of Carlyle's famous figure to describe a long, empty speech—"a little bit of soap in a small quantity of water stirred into a paillful of froth."

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

STATE OF THE NAVY.

The Duke of SOMERSET made a motion for the production of a return of the number of ships added to the Navy from 1860 to 1865, and entered into a lengthened defence of the policy of the late Board of Admiralty whilst he was at its head as First Lord.

THE REFORM DEMONSTRATION.

The Earl of DUDLEY, having drawn attention to the danger and inconvenience likely to arise from the forthcoming political procession,

The Earl of DERBY said the question was undoubtedly one of very serious importance, and he deeply regretted that the promoters of the movement had not entertained a higher sense of the duty they owed to the public than to persist in their intention. He feared, however, that the Government were utterly unable to induce them to give it up. Government had consulted the law officers of the Crown on the subject, and had been informed that they had no power to interfere with the procession as long as there was no breach of the peace. All they could do, therefore, was to see that no disorder occurred, and he trusted the result would not be such as to induce Parliament to alter the law, a step which would give rise to much suspicion and jealousy.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in reply to the Earl of Ellenborough, stated that the procession of Monday next was not prohibited by law, inasmuch as its object was not to create terror or intimidation.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE METROPOLITAN POOR.

Mr. HARDY explained the provisions of his bill for the improved accommodation of the sick poor of the metropolis, prefacing it by an elaborate review of past legislation, and of the various inquiries into the subject, including those of the *Lancet* commission and of the commission of medical men appointed by himself last recess. From these he showed that the chief improvements requisite were greater cubical space, increased ventilation, and more complete classification of the poor; and, assuming that he had to deal with about 34,000 persons, including children, he proposed to obtain these improvements by placing all the imbeciles in separate establishments, by removing all children above two years to separate schools, and by providing new accommodation for 2000 lunatics and for 700 or 800 fever and smallpox patients, either by erecting new buildings or hiring old ones. The infirmaries for the remaining sick poor would be placed under separate boards of management; for many of the evils in their condition sprang from their being managed under a system originally intended for the ordinary poor; and of these boards one third of the members would be nominated by the Poor-Law Board from persons resident in the district or union, rated at not less than £100 a year. By this means he hoped to secure more efficient inspection and to give facilities for training nurses and for educating medical officers. For the relief of the outdoor sick he proposed to establish central dispensaries, and to require that the medical officers, instead of making up their own medicines, should in all cases give prescriptions. The bill also provided that the local Acts in the metropolis (ten in number) should be repealed, and that the whole metropolis should be placed under the Poor-Law Board. Mr. Hardy next discussed the equalisation of poor rates, pointing out various objections to the principle, and intimated that, though he could not consent to equalise the metropolitan rates, the bill would throw on the common fund the charges for lunatics, fever, and smallpox patients, medical officers, dispensaries, and medicines, registration, vaccination, and the maintenance of children at school. To illustrate the effect of the distribution of these charges, £60,000 in amount, he mentioned that, while it would add 3d. in the pound to the rates of the city of London Union, it would relieve St. George's, Southwark, of 1s. in the pound, and would not amount to more than a penny rate over the whole metropolis. The last feature of the scheme—which altogether was very favourably received by the House—was a power to the Poor-Law Board to appoint proper officers where the guardians refused or neglected to do it.

TRADES UNIONS.

Mr. WALPOLE brought in his bill to compel the attendance of witnesses before the proposed Commission in relation to trades unions. In doing so, he described the purpose of the Commission, which is, to inquire whether trades unions were connected with the late outrages at Sheffield, and also into the constitution of the unions and the laws affecting them. Sir William Erie is to be the president of the Commission, and, in deference to the wishes of the working men themselves, Mr. Frederick Harrison's name is added to the Commission. The other members are the Earl of Lichfield, Lord Elcho, Sir Edmund Head, Sir Daniel Gooch; Mr. Roebuck, M.P.; Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P.; Mr. James Scott, Mr. Herman Merivale, and Mr. William Matthews.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords sat only for a few minutes, the business transacted being of no public interest.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

The paragraph of the Queen's Speech relating to the Representation of the People having been read at the table,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, who was loudly cheered by his supporters, proceeded to give his promised explanation of the Ministerial views, reminding the House at the outset that in the paragraph just read her Majesty appealed to them to divest themselves of all party spirit in dealing with this question. The meaning the Government attached to this paragraph was that Parliamentary Reform ought no longer to be a question which should decide the fate of Ministries (here there was a slight laugh from below the gangway on the Opposition side), and for this reason, that all parties had attempted to deal with it—in 1852, '54, '59, '60, and '66—had failed. In a long and elaborate retrospect of the reform question Mr. Disraeli traced to the dis-franchisement of the labouring classes in 1832 the seeds of the present demand for a change, of which Sir Robert Peel had warned Earl Grey at the time, and, while repudiating the idea that the claims of the working classes had been treated in the House of Commons in a disrespectful or dilatory spirit, the fault he found was that they had been met too often in an Epicurean tone, which would do anything for present quiet, he denied that any scheme had yet been introduced which was calculated to settle the controversy. As it was the House of Commons—not a political party or any political leader—which had disturbed the settlement of 1832, so it was the House of Commons, and not any party, which had baffled every effort to pass a new Reform Bill. When that attempt at disturbance was commenced the Conservatives determined not to make opposition to Parliamentary reform a principle of action, and they had never opposed the second reading of any of the bills introduced since 1850; nor did the question, he asserted, assume a party character until the vote of 1859 on Lord Russell's resolution. The House of Commons, therefore, had incurred a peculiar responsibility in this matter, and was it not wise to consider whether it could not pursue a course which, while not relieving the Government from its due share of responsibility, would insure them against a repetition of former mishaps? This advantage might be attained if the House would give the Government some intimation of its views on the main points of the controversy by resolutions, before a bill was introduced—a course, as he showed, which was Constitutional, justified by successful precedents, would not lead to delay, and which, though to require too much precision would be unreasonable, need not entail vagueness and uncertainty. The Government would to-day lay on the table the resolutions they proposed for this purpose, and, in shadowing out the chief of them, he intimated that rating, not rental, would be the basis of the franchise; that there would be a reduction both of the county and borough franchise, though the precise limit, depending as it did on so many other points to be subsequently settled, could not be stated in the resolution. The Government would proceed in their task of reconstructing the House of Commons on the principles of the British Constitution; they would sanction no course which would alter the characteristics by which it had risen to its present pitch of power (not enjoyed, as he showed, by any of the democratic assemblies of foreign countries), and would strenuously contend that the electoral franchise must be considered a popular privilege, not a democratic right. Notwithstanding the violent and pernicious doctrines recently circulated, he hoped the House would agree to resolutions in unison with these views. On the important question of redistribution of seats, resolutions would be proposed in harmony with the principles by which the vast and varied interests of the empire secured a representation in the House, the Government being fully conscious that by any attempt to obtain artificial symmetry the character of the House might be changed and its authority destroyed. The resolutions would lay down that no borough should be wholly disfranchised, except in cases where systematic corruption was proved; that representation should be extended to boroughs now unrepresented whose circumstances demanded it; and would provide for the extension of boundaries. On this last point Mr. Disraeli dwelt at some length, arguing that, as the 11,500,000 county population was represented by 162 members, while the borough population of 9,500,000 had 324 members, the county population had a right to complain if their representation was interfered with by the borough population—an injustice now existing, and which would be increased by the proposed reduction of the county franchise—from the overflow of many boroughs beyond the boundaries fixed in 1832. Halifax, for instance, if its boundaries were not widened, would contribute to the constituency of the West Riding a large band of voters whose sympathies and interests were borough, not county. At the same time, he repudiated any desire to prevent the blending of country and urban populations which was inevitable and desirable—the Government only intended to remedy an injustice; and he defended himself from the imputation of endeavouring to eliminate all independence from the county representation and to hand it over to the landlords and farmers, showing that while these classes, including farm labourers, only amounted to 2,000,000,

there remained in the counties over and above them a scattered village population, as it was statistically called, of 7,000,000—the backbone of the country, including that most valuable of all classes, the county freeholders. The course the Government had chosen was not flattering to themselves, but; they deemed it more honourable to take a part, however humble, in the settlement of this controversy than to bring in a mock measure which party spirit would not have allowed to pass. They were not angling for a policy, they had a policy of their own; and though they were prepared not to shrink from the main points of it, they would receive any suggestions or any assistance in a candid spirit. After an eloquent vindication of the House of Commons, which was loudly cheered, Mr. Disraeli concluded by intimating that the resolutions would be taken into consideration on the 25th inst.

Mr. GLADSTONE, after remarking on the novelty of the proposed procedure, the success of which, he observed, would not be furthered by Mr. Disraeli's assumption that the Reform question ought no longer to involve the fate of Ministries—for, though the House might have incurred a heavier responsibility on this than on any other subject, the responsibility of Government was not diminished—said that, though his prepossessions were against it, he should not object to proceeding by resolutions if when they were produced they formed a plan which the House could use either by adoption or alteration as a means of settlement. But if they turned out to be mere vague preliminary declarations, tending to uncertainty and not calculated to form the basis of settlement, he hoped the House would object to this mode of procedure. Their first duty was to refuse everything which tended to delay the primary duty of extending the franchise, for never until the question was got out of the way could the people of England become again a united people. Adverting to a remark of Mr. Disraeli, he denied with some warmth that any Government had attempted to deal with the question on principles new to the Constitution.

RATING.

Mr. HUNT obtained leave to bring in a bill to promote uniformity in the assessment of rateable property in England and Wales, which was read a first time.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY, 12. HOUSE OF LORDS.

Earl RUSSELL presented a petition from Mr. Rigby Wason, formerly member for Ipswich, setting forth certain charges against the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, Sir F. Kelly, and praying inquiry.

The LORD CHANCELLOR and Lord ST. LEONARDS joined in defending the character of the learned Judge against charges which they described as both false and malicious.

The Earl of DERBY recommended that the petition should be withdrawn, and Earl RUSSELL intimated his readiness to do so, but ultimately the motion that it should lie on the table was negatived.

In reply to Lord Stanley of Alderley, the Earl of DERBY narrated the circumstances connected with the alleged capture of the city of Chester by Fenians.

The Earl of BELMORE moved the second reading of a bill for the regulation of the street traffic of the metropolis, and, after a short discussion, the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE AFFAIR AT CHESTER.

There was a large attendance of members to hear Mr. Walpole's account of what had been done at Chester. Mr. WALPOLE spoke of the matter very seriously. He told the House how, having received information on Sunday from Liverpool that a Fenian rising was imminent, he sent down a messenger; how he had received alarming telegrams from the Mayor of Chester; how he had sat up till after four o'clock that morning waiting to receive a telegram from the General commanding the district; and how he had sent off the Fusilier Guards to Chester.

Lord ELCHO read a telegram from Earl Grosvenor treating the affair as one of some importance, but stating that all danger was past.

NEW BILLS.

Mr. Harcourt obtained leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of church rates. Mr. Torrens asked permission to bring in his bill of last Session for the improvement of the dwellings of artisans and labourers. Mr. Walpole, on the part of the Government, expressed his approval of the measure, and leave was given to bring it in. Leave was subsequently given to bring in bills relating to the commutation of church rates, the fellowships of Oxford and Cambridge, to provide better security for holders of railway debentures, and other matters.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House was occupied some hours discussing a bill, brought in by Mr. Ayrton, in reference to the Finsbury Estate. The bill proposed that at least half the revenue from the Finsbury Estate, which is vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, should be devoted to the relief of the spiritual destitution of the metropolis. The bill was strenuously opposed, and was finally rejected by 87 votes to 53. The other business was unimportant.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14. HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Earl of DERBY, in reply to a question, gave some information as to the alleged Fenian uprising in Ireland. The statement was similar in its details to what will be found in another column.

The Earl of DERBY also moved the second reading of the Public Schools Bill, which was agreed to, on the understanding that two members of the House of Commons—one from each side of the House—should be added to the Commission for conducting the bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE RESOLUTIONS UPON REFORM.

Lord R. MONTAGU asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether the Government would endeavour, as early as possible in this Session, to bring in a bill which will carry out whatever resolutions may be passed by the Committee on the Act 2 and 3 William IV., c. 45.

Mr. DISRAELI said the main object in introducing the resolutions was that they should obtain the sanction of the House to a bill which they hoped to introduce on Parliamentary reform. Under these circumstances he was not prepared to enter into any detail on the motion. If the resolutions were passed, of course they would introduce a bill founded on them; the object of the resolutions was merely to obtain the general opinion of the House, and therefore they did not go into details; nor was it desirable that the House should go into detail in discussing them, but merely affirm an opinion of the principles.

Mr. OSBORNE asked if the right hon. gentleman would name the exact sum at which the franchise should be placed.

Mr. DISRAELI said, if the House would support the resolutions, he would then take the opportunity of bringing in a bill and going into all the details.

THE SUGAR DUTIES.

In Committee on the Sugar Duties, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the following resolutions:—1. That, towards raising the supply granted to her Majesty, on and after March 1, 1867, in lieu of the duties on customs now charged on the undermentioned articles, the following duties of customs shall be charged thereon, on importation into Great Britain and Ireland (that is to say): Sugar—viz. Candy, brown or white, refined sugar, or sugar rendered by any process equal in quality thereto, and manufactures of refined sugar, 12s. the cwt. Sugar not equal to refined, viz.:—First class, 11s. 3d. the cwt.; second class, 10s. 6d. the cwt.; third class, 9s. 7d. the cwt.; fourth class, including cane juice, 8s. the cwt.; molasses, 3s. 6d. the cwt. 2. That on and after March 1, 1867, in lieu of the drawbacks now allowed thereon, the following drawbacks shall be paid and allowed on the undermentioned descriptions of sugar refined in Great Britain or Ireland on the exportation thereof to foreign parts, or on removal to the Isle of Man for consumption there, or on deposit in any approved warehouse upon such terms, and subject to such regulations, as the Commissioners of Customs may direct, for delivery from such warehouse as ship's stores only, or for the purpose of sweetening British spirits in bond (that is to say):—Upon refined sugar in loaf complete and whole, or lumps duly refined, having been perfectly clarified and thoroughly dried in the stove, and being of a uniform whiteness throughout, and upon such sugar pounded, crushed or broken in a warehouse, approved by the Commissioners of Customs, such sugar having been first inspected by the officers of customs, in lumps or loaves as for immediate shipment, and then packed for exportation in the presence of such officers, and at the expense of the exporter, and also upon candy, and also upon sugar refined by the centrifugal or by any other process, and not in any way inferior to the export standard sample No. 1, approved by the Lords of the Treasury, 12s. for every cwt. Upon refined sugar unstored, powdered, crushed, or broken, and not in any way inferior to the export standard sample No. 2, approved by the Lords of the Treasury, and which shall not contain more than 5 per centum of moisture over and above what the same would contain if thoroughly dried in the stove, 11s. 5s. for every cwt. Upon other refined sugar unstored, being bastards, or pieces, or grounds, powdered or crushed, if not in any way inferior to the export standard, sample No. 3, approved by the Lords of the Treasury, 11s. 3d. for every cwt. Not in any way inferior to the export standard sample No. 4, approved by the Lords of the Treasury, 10s. 6d. for every cwt. Not in any way inferior to the export standard sample No. 5, approved by the Lords of the Treasury, 9s. 7d. for every cwt. Inferior to the above last-mentioned standard sample 8s. for every cwt.

After a brief conversation the resolutions were agreed to.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE obtained leave to bring in a bill to abolish the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade and to substitute a Secretary, with a seat in Parliament.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Mr. WALPOLE asked for leave to bring in two bills—one for amending the law relating to murder and for giving further protection to new-born children, and the other to provide for carrying into effect capital punishment within the walls of the prison. The right hon. gentleman drew distinctions between the degrees of criminality of murder, pointing out those in respect to which it was proposed to retain capital punishment, observing that, in the framing of the bill, he confined himself entirely to the words in the report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the state of the law with regard to capital punishment.

Mr. BRIGHT regretted that the right hon. gentleman had departed from the intention of the Commission. He wished it to be left to the jury to say whether the crime came under the category of murder in the first or in the second degree. At present that question was left too much to the discretion of the Judges, and they were by no means infallible.

Several members having expressed an opinion in favour of the total abolition of capital punishment, leave was given to bring in the two bills. They were accordingly brought in and read a first time.

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THE SICK POOR.

THE more carefully the programme of social reforms shadowed forth in her Majesty's Speech on opening Parliament is studied, the more is regret likely to be felt that the great political question of the day—Parliamentary Reform—was not settled during last or some preceding Session. The Ministers offer a goodly bill of fare. Improvements in the water supply of our cities and large towns; regulation of street traffic; London cabs; the operation of trades unions; extension of the Factory Acts; the condition of our merchant seamen; law reforms; and last, and most important of all, improvement in the administration of the poor laws, so far as regards sick and lunatic paupers. There is goodly promise in that list of measures; but, with the Reform cart stopping the way, we fear the promise will be realised in but a very meagre degree, if at all. This, we repeat, is a matter for profound regret; because, while we fully admit the importance and necessity for "settling the Reform question," we confess we desire to see that accomplished mainly in the hope that the ground will thereby be cleared, and Parliament, as reconstituted, be left free to devote its energies to effecting some of those social reforms which lie at the root of the well-being and content of all ranks of society.

But as, in existing circumstances, it would be evincing a too sanguine disposition were we to hope for the passing of all the measures promised by the Government, our wisest course is to select what seem to be the most urgent and those in regard to which there is the least likelihood of serious differences of opinion, and to push those on with all the vigour we can bring to bear. In selecting Mr. Gathorne Hardy's bill providing for reform of the metropolitan workhouse infirmaries and the better care of the sick and impotent poor, we believe we shall be pointing to perhaps the measure, of all others proposed, which most nearly fulfils the conditions we have named. That bill should be passed, because it is urgently needed; and it may be passed, because it is not likely to encounter much or serious opposition. There may be a few points of detail that need amendment; but that can easily be done in Committee. The leading principles of the measure are admitted to be sound; they are in accordance with public opinion; the medical profession, the press, and all who have studied the matter, have already pronounced in their favour; and there can be, consequently, and ought to be, no difficulty and no delay in pushing the bill through Parliament. There are political rocks ahead, on which the Government and its measures may be wrecked. We hope, therefore, that Mr. Hardy will make all possible sail while the wind serves and the course is clear, and carry at least this measure into port ere the storm breaks.

The main features of Mr. Hardy's measure are—that a better system of classification of the poor shall be adopted, so as to admit of the separation of the sick, the insane, the impotent, and children from the other classes of paupers; that asylums or hospitals shall be erected for these persons apart from the ordinary workhouses; that dispensaries shall be established; that the cost of maintaining these hospitals and dispensaries, with their proper staffs of medical officers, nurses, and stocks of medicines, shall be distributed over the entire metropolis; and that the carrying out and superintendence of these arrangements shall be under the direct control of the Poor-Law Board, and not of the local guardians. Everyone—except, perhaps, the most mulish representatives of Bumbledom—will approve these objects; and the urgency of the matter has received one more striking illus-

tration in the exposure this week of the state of things in the smallpox wards in St. Pancras' workhouse. In the proposed hospitals, with skilled superintendence, trained nurses, and efficient medical officers, such disgraceful practices as those spoken of by Dr. Markham could not exist. We are not disposed to impute special blame to the guardians of St. Pancras in this matter. They might, perhaps, have managed affairs better; but the mischief, we believe, lies more in the fact that workhouses at present combine two things which are in their nature essentially distinct, and ought always to be kept so in practice, or abuses are certain to arise. These establishments should not be at one and the same time infirmaries for the sick and "work houses" for the able-bodied. To the latter class of paupers it is necessary to apply a test. The best sort of test is labour; but, unless the sick be separated from the healthy, the impotent from the sturdy but lazy vagrant, the labour test can never be effectively applied. The sins of the one order of claimants of relief will be more or less visited on the other. Hence the desirability of a thorough system of classification; and this, as we think, will be secured in the proposed hospitals. As to the advantages of rearing children apart from poorhouse influences, there cannot be two opinions. Nothing destroys independence of character and engenders the pauper spirit so effectively as associating with paupers. The race of "workhouse children," if reared away from workhouses, may be so trained as to cease to be in their turn, as they have hitherto generally been, the propagators of pauperism.

The question of cost is one on which we and those who, with us, have long advocated the equalisation of poor rates over larger areas can only have ground for gratulation. Our principle, that it is proper that rich districts should help poor persons, is making way, and receiving fresh recognitions every day. The casual poor are now a charge upon the whole metropolis. The sick, the insane, the infantile, are also, by Mr. Hardy's bill, to be maintained by a general rate. Thus much accomplished, the rest will follow in due course, we doubt not. We can well afford to "take our patience to us," and wait for the day when the spectacle will no longer be exhibited in London of paupers maintaining paupers, while millionaires escape comparatively free of the burden.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN and the Royal Family are expected to return to Windsor Castle on or about the 21st inst.

HER MAJESTY has graciously signified her intention to confer the honour of knighthood on Mr. George Harvey, president of the Royal Scottish Academy, and on Mr. J. Noel Paton, R.S.A.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH will probably put to sea in command of the Galatea within three or four days of the 20th inst.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has granted to Mr. Ayrton, M.P., and Sir C. Bright, M.P., a concession for the laying and working of a submarine telegraph line between Ragusa and Malta, or Ragusa and Corfu.

Mr. VICTOR HUGO is writing a drama, the story of which is laid during the Restoration.

Sir J. B. KARS LAKE, the new Solicitor General, was returned for Andover on Monday, without opposition.

THE STORY OF SIR ROGER TICHBORNE has been dramatised, and is now being performed at the Winchester theatre.

Mr. DION BOUCAULT is at present in Paris, making arrangements for the production of two new plays, which he has been commissioned to write by French managers.

THE DUTY ON SPIRITS amounted last year to £10,437,168, being an increase of £200,487 on the preceding year.

THE OLD HISTORICAL WINDMILL OF SANS-SOUCI has just been blown down during a gale of wind.

A MULATTO SLAVE in Brazil has carried off a national prize medal for the best work of sculpture, and also received a paper of manumission. His statue is a cupid.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL has issued the following circular:—"On the 15th inst., and thenceforward, the combined British and foreign postage on letters addressed to the Papal States, and forwarded via France, will be reduced to 6d. for each 4 oz.

A MOVEMENT has been commenced, by a number of deputies in the Diet at Agram, to effect a speedy union between Croatia and Hungary, and they have invited all the Croatian deputies to a conference on the subject.

FOUR MEN AND A BOY were buried alive the other day in some sewer works near Victoria Park. The boy was got out unhurt. Two of the men were rescued while they still breathed, but the other two were dead before they could be extricated.

THE NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ELECTION took place on Wednesday morning. Mr. Sackville G. Stopford, a Conservative, was elected without opposition. Mr. Stopford was one of the unsuccessful candidates at Northampton at the last election.

MRS. (LONGWORTH) YELVERTON is coming again before the House of Lords this Session to establish her status as a married woman. Her funds being utterly exhausted, she is now forced to appear in foral papers.

THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT is said to have declared its readiness to give every facility to the three engineers appointed by England, France, and Prussia to carry on separately their investigation with reference to the question of the barring of the Scheidt.

IN THE UPPER HOUSE OF CONVOCATION, on Wednesday, the Bishops held a secret sitting to discuss the question of Ritualism. The resolutions they arrived at, practically, amount to this: That no ceremonial ought to be introduced into any church without the consent of the Bishop of the diocese.

A BUTCHER OF LIEGE has just died in consequence of a casual inoculation of the virus of the cattle disease. He had been engaged in slaughtering the infected animals at Hasselt, and, in cutting up a body, had accidentally scratched his hand, which swelled up with such rapidity as to render medical aid of no avail.

MR. JOSEPH MAYER, who has long possessed one of the most valuable collections in Europe of Egyptian, Roman, and Anglo-Saxon antiquities and works of art, has bequeathed the whole of this collection to the Liverpool Free Library and Museum, the only conditions being that the collection shall be called by his name and shall not be separated.

THE CREW OF THE TORNADO were set at liberty on Monday. These unfortunate victims of Spanish injustice and cruelty, in their petition to Parliament, demand not merely their liberation, but compensation for their confinement as prisoners of war for nearly six months and the barbarous treatment to which they have been subjected.

MR. JONATHAN LOWNDES, who had been connected with the Oxford Journal for the long period of sixty-three years, has just died, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Mr. Lownes's father, who died sixty years ago, was also connected with the paper for a long period, and the entire management now devolves on the eldest son of Mr. Jonathan Lownes. One family has thus been connected with the Oxford Journal almost from its commencement, 114 years ago.

A POPULAR ACTRESS at the Carl Theatre, Vienna, has retired from the stage on the occasion of her approaching marriage with a Prince of Thurn and Taxis, one of whose brothers is married to a sister of the Empress of Austria. Another brother, who was Adjutant to the King of Bavaria, eloped the other day with a celebrated actress from Munich, and married her in Switzerland.

M. GUIZOT has just finished the eighth and last volume of his Memoirs, which terminate with the recital of the three days of the July revolution. This volume will be published in April. M. Saint Marc Girardin has received a magnificent album from the Greek population of Trieste, offered to him in testimony of their gratitude for his exertions in the Hellenic cause.



RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS FROM CANDIA TO GREECE: THE PEOPLE OF

THE CRETAN INSURRECTION.

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An engagement was conducted much in the manner represented in our engraving; and, though it often ended in a conflict at close quarters, the patriots could never secure any further advantage from a battle. They were too few and too little organised, and so time itself became their enemy. When there was no longer a sheep or a kid left on the mountains, when the oxen used mostly for ploughing had been killed and eaten, and the last of the last year's crop of grain had been made into bread, what were they to do? Olives, chestnuts, myrtles, rose-laurels, brilliant flowers, cannot feed hungry troops. Even figs, almonds, and malvoisie raisins only grow in their appointed seasons; and as agriculture has remained in its primitive condition, and only enough corn, barley, beans, and oats are grown for nine months' consumption, and the efficiency is made up by importation from Egypt and elsewhere, nothing remained to be done but to eat up everything and then leave the bare country to the invaders, and seek food and an asylum in Greece.

A letter from a correspondent who was one of a band of about forty, many of whom were Garibaldians serving in the Candiote cause, says:—"We wandered over the icy mountains of Aspromounta for several days, without food or fire, and with our clothes in rags; and at last arrived at the coast, where, after scrambling up the arid rocks of Orio, we made signals towards the sea, in the hope of being taken off by some vessel. Several of the party attempted to put off in small boats; but they were mostly unsuccessful, though a few reached Cerigo. At last a Russian frigate appeared, and took on board some Cretan families and the few of our number who were able to reach the bay where the ship waited for them. Unfortunately, after some days of anxious waiting, we were compelled to resume our march, weak, dispirited, and uncertain what direction to take. We were required to join the brave chief Zimbrakakis, who, with only thirty-three volunteers, held in check at Omalos the Turkish scouts. We lost ourselves in the mountains, and, after eight days' march, fell into the midst of a band of six or seven hundred volunteers, who, broken up and harassed, had given themselves up to Mustapha Pacha, he having promised to favour their return to their country on board European vessels. In their company we arrived at Sphakia, where we were very badly received by the people—a reception which may be explained by the character of some of the companions amongst whom we had fallen; for in the ranks of this band were many heroes of the cord and the sack who had escaped from the prisons of Chalcis. Mustapha Pacha communicated with the various Consuls, begging them to send ships in order to transport to the Piræus the Greek volunteers who had submitted to this condition; and two days afterwards, on Jan. 18, the Salamandre, a French despatch boat, entered the waters of Sphakia. The expected vessels not arriving, we were informed that we should be embarked in two Ottoman ships; and, as we showed some repugnance to embarking on board enemies' ships, M. Le Jeune, the commander of the Salamandre, agreed to escort the convoy to the Piræus, threatening the Turkish commanders with a broadside if they attempted to molest us.

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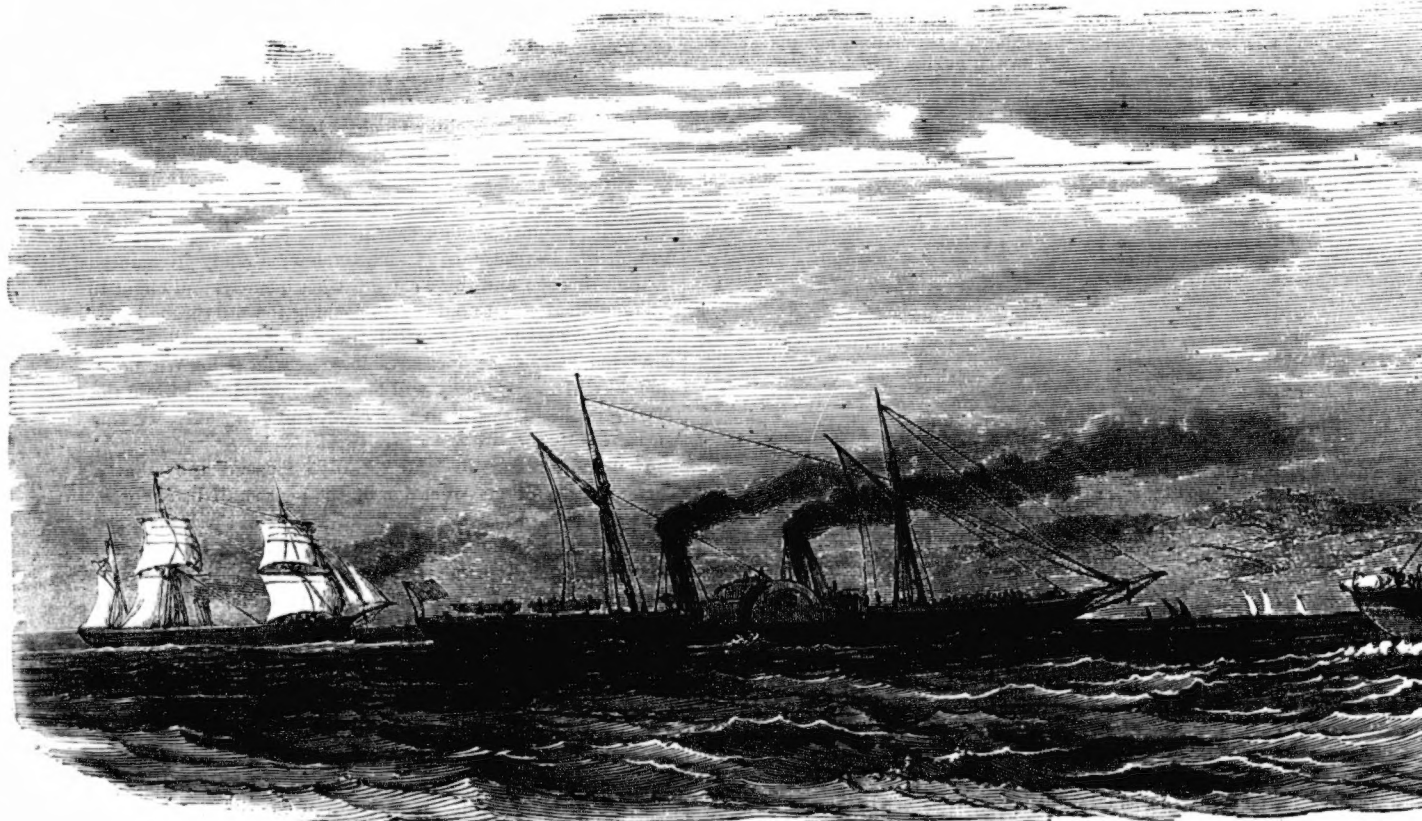
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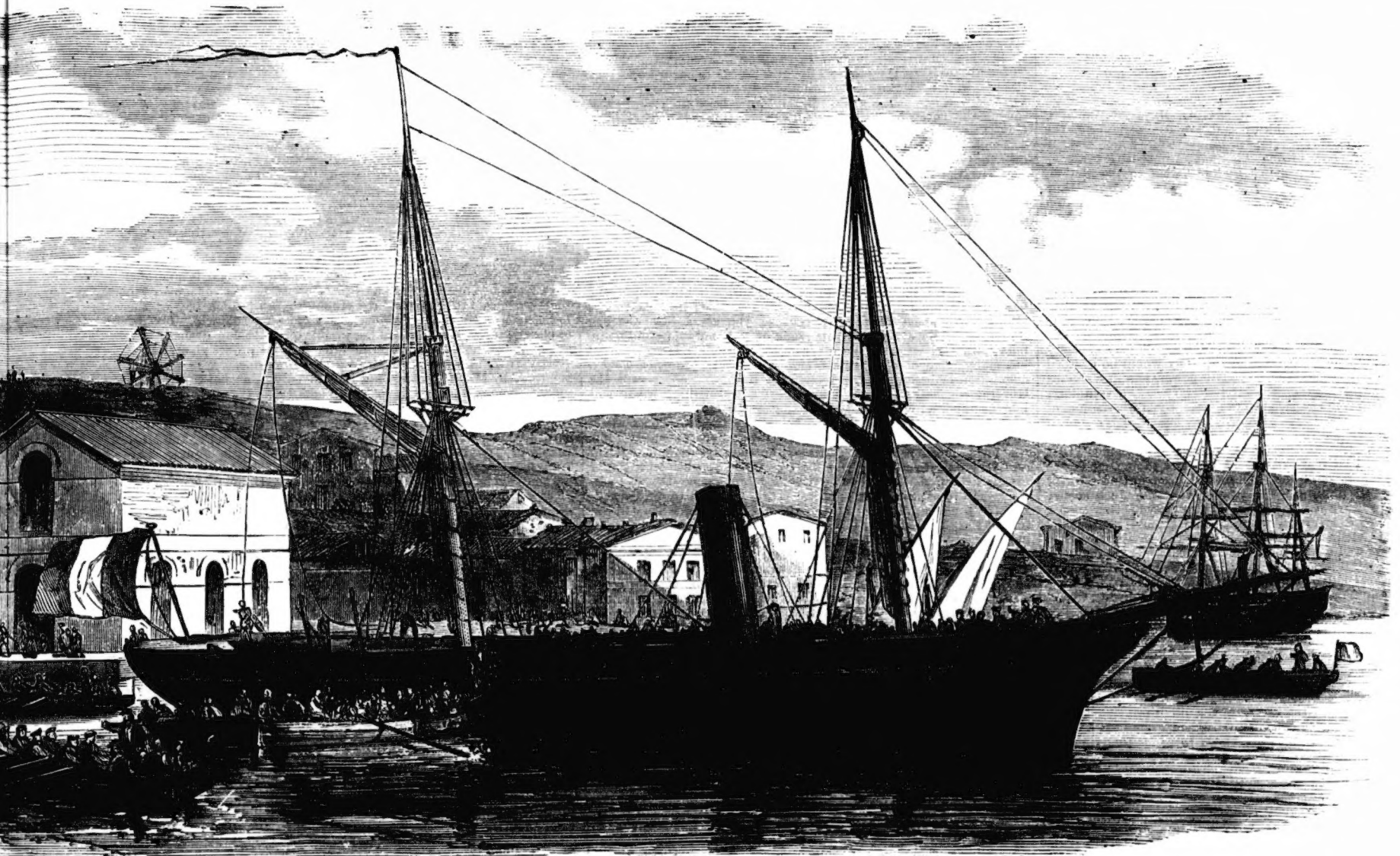
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THE FRANCO-TURKISH FLEET WITH RETURNED VOL



POSING THE LANDING OF THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE PIREUS, ATHENS.

"The occasion roused all the long latent humanity of M. Derché. He made urgent appeals to the Consuls and their respective naval commandants here to get a ship sent after these unfortunates. With the greatest consistency the authorities (and M. Derché) invited the European men-of-war to carry away the volunteers, but insisted that no Cretan—man, woman, or child, sick or wounded—should be admitted on board. These unfortunates should not be allowed, like the refugees of the Assurance and Grand Admiral, to be torn from their homes and exposed on the decks of inhuman men-of-war to the elements during the voyage, and starvation afterwards, as we are positively assured by M. Derché was the case with those hapless exiles; and, as we learn from the same distinguished authority, they were afterwards abandoned on a desert island.

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"The defection of the prodigal sons of the Salamandre from the Cretan cause will produce no other effect than to rid the island of a nuisance.

These men have been the cause of the greatest annoyance to the chiefs for weeks. They did not fight, but scattered disorder and quarrels amongst the Cretans and their families. They boast, I have heard, of their intrigues and debaucheries, and, as we know the Cretan standard of sexual morality, it is doubtless true that several of them were assassinated; that they were not, on their mutinous separation from their comrades, slaughtered *en masse* by the Sphakiotes, is due to the moral control the Assembly has over the population.

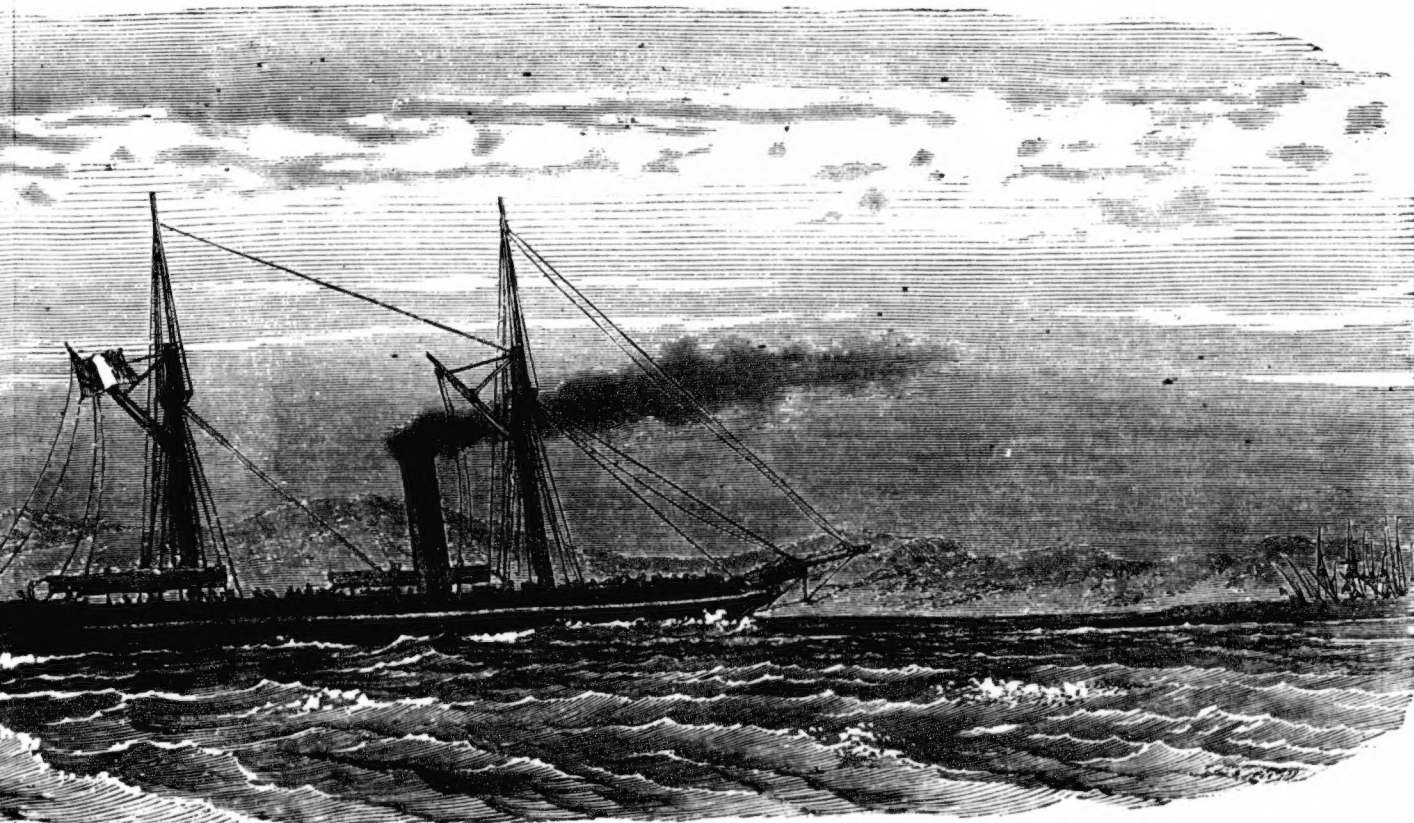
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"The spring is now on us—all the worst difficulties for the insurgents surmounted. They feel the effect of European sympathy; to a certain extent they expect results from it, for in their simple and natural way they imagine that when the world is convinced of the justice of their cause it will act upon that conviction.

"It is not to be doubted that, if left entirely and indefinitely to themselves in their conflict with the forces of the whole Ottoman empire, they must finally succumb; but for the forces now actually present, the present means of resistance suffice, until hope shall be taken away that some day Europe will hear and help them. It is this hope that has kept resistance alive, and this they will not abandon without more discouraging proofs than they have had. They count the Christian bond for more than it is; they keep amongst their old superstitions one that great and civilised nations must will and do what is just.

"Of definite and important military news we have very little. The troops debarked along the coast of Sphakia spend their time and lives in vain attempts to hammer a way through some of the entrances into the mountains: notably Agios Rumeli, where fighting has taken place for the last fortnight, off and on, and was still going on yesterday, when the Talia passed there, bringing back the new envoyé of the Sultan, who arrived here two or three days ago, set off at once to see Mustapha, and has just this morning returned. She brings a report that the Pacha intended going by sea to some point east of Sphakia, and crossing thence by land to the Apokorona and Canéa. He himself, it was reported, would return to Canéa in two or three days. It is safe to deny in advance any reports of submissions, &c., which may reach you via Constantinople. There has been a good deal of money spent and many promises made; but the former has lost a good deal of its influence, and the latter all of their value; and I shall venture the opinion that any agreement of the Sphakiotes with Mustapha will be based on the condition that they are let alone.

"As for the other sections of the island, they are let alone without any agreement. The Turkish forces are so much reduced in number that concentration becomes a measure of safety; and if, as we hear, the Egyptian contingent should be recalled, the remains of the Turkish force will barely suffice to hold the walled places and dépôts."



UNTEERS ENTERING THE ROADSTEAD OF THE PIREUS.

APPREHENDED FENIAN RAID AT CHESTER.

MUCH alarm has been caused this week in Chester by an apprehended raid of Fenians upon the ancient city. The particulars of this affair will be gathered from the following summary of information now in the hands of Mr. Fenwick, the chief constable of Chester:—

The Fenians have recently organised in New York a band of fifty, whose special mission it is to proceed to England and Ireland and endeavour to resuscitate the dying brotherhood. These men are understood to have arrived in England. Fifteen of them are stationed in the metropolis, and there form a directory. Eight of them are ex-officers of the American army. There are also similar directories at Liverpool, at Manchester, at Leeds, at Glasgow, and at Birmingham. For some time past these directories have been making arrangements to concentrate their forces upon some place which was to have been named on Friday week. This was not done, but a meeting was called for Sunday at Liverpool, and it was then resolved to attack Chester Castle the following day, seize the arms deposited there, cut the telegraph wires, tear up the rails, and make good their escape by rail to Holyhead, and trust to fortune to get across to Ireland. What arrangements were to be made for their reception in Ireland has not transpired. It was also understood that they would attack the banks and jewellers' shops. It was also given out freely at the meeting why Chester Castle was selected. Up to midnight on Sunday Chester was not protected by more than half a dozen soldiers, on guard at the castle, and twice as many unarmed policemen in the city. Under their protection were no less than 9000 stand of arms (a few weeks ago there were 30,000, but the bulk have been removed for conversion into breech-loaders,) 4000 swords, and 900,000 rounds of ammunition, in addition to powder in bulk. There were also stored in another part of the castle 900 stand of arms belonging to the militia; and in a small building in the city were 200 stand of arms belonging to the volunteers. It was stated



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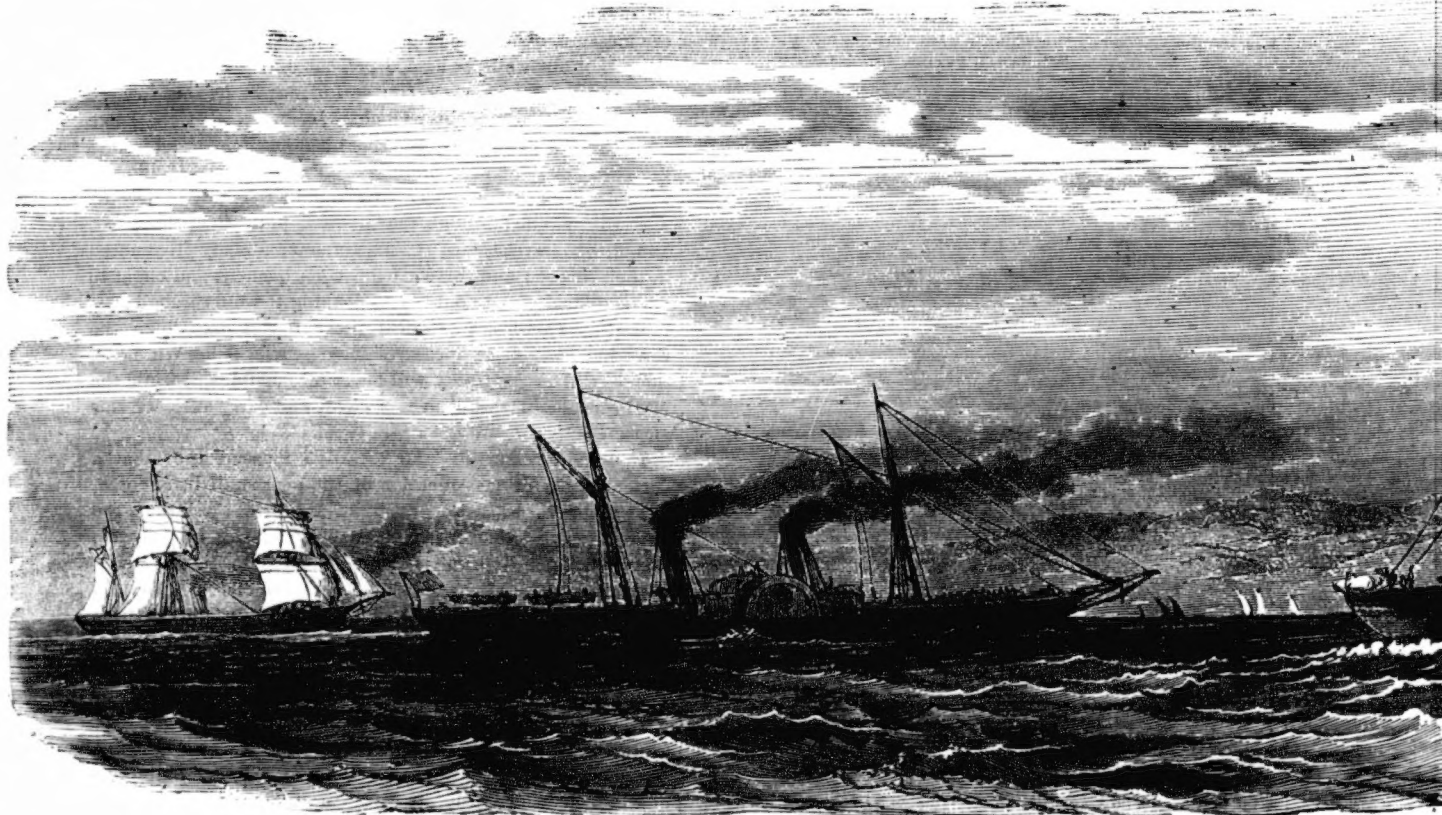
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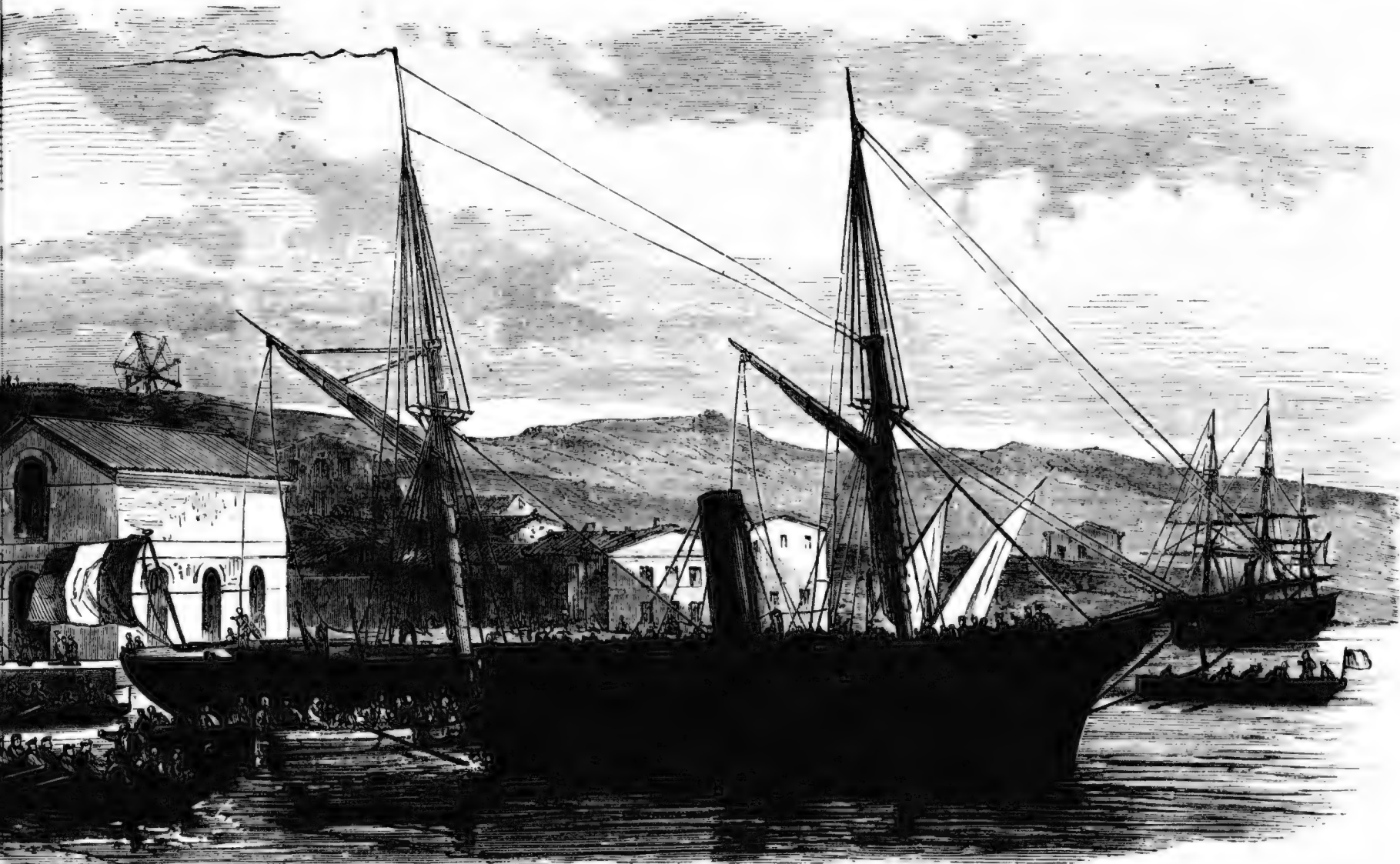
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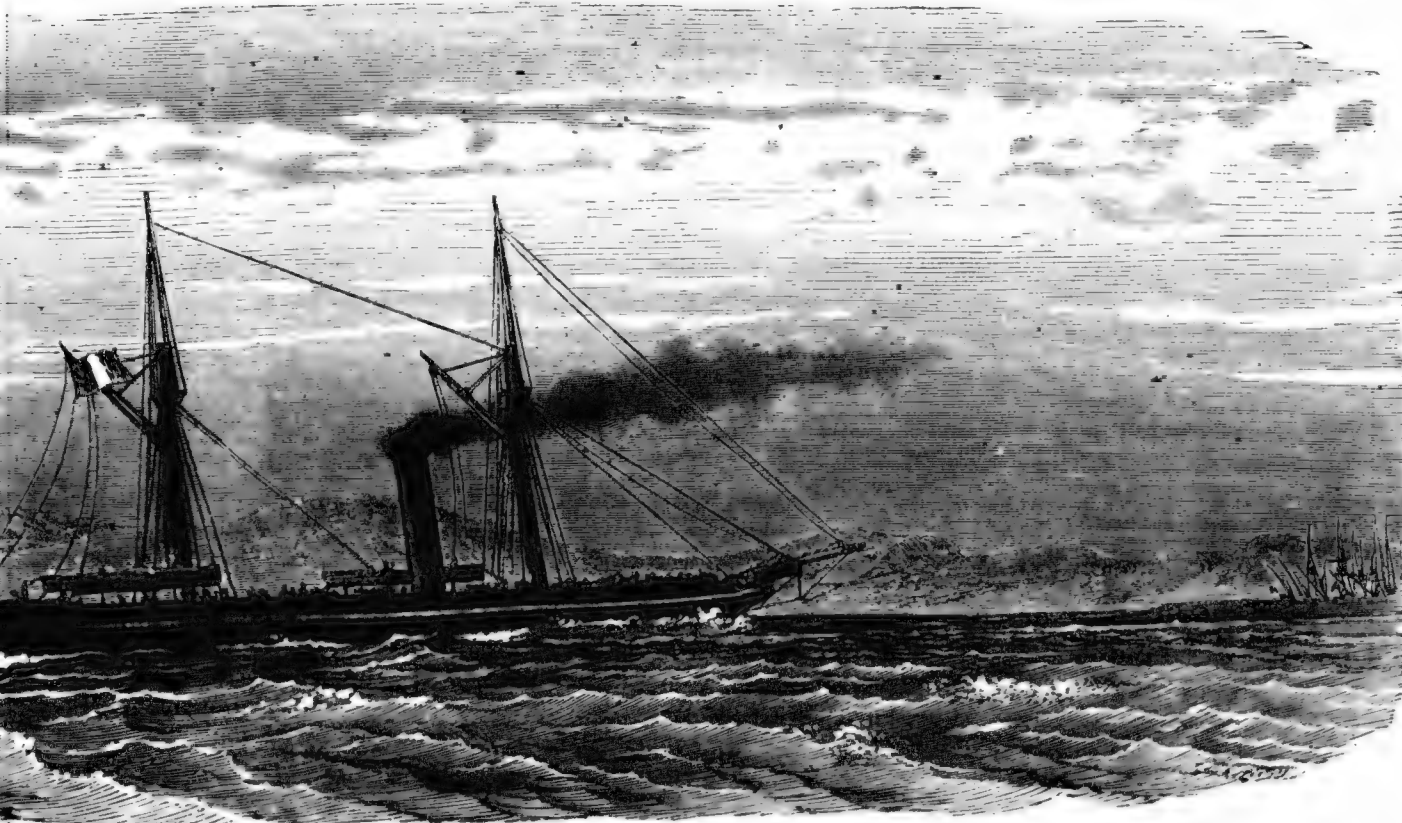
"One incident connected with the Salamandre deserves recording. In one of the conferences, with which the Consular corps amuses itself infructuously, the commandant of that vessel declared that he would not put one foot before the other to save the whole of the volunteers from destruction; and, as for the five Frenchmen among them, he would like to have them hung at the yardarms of his own ship. As to the departure of the volunteers, so far from its being a blow to the insurrection, I opine that the deportation of a few hundred more would be a service to the Cretans and their cause. Except for the moral effect of their sympathy and the arms they bring, I doubt much if the volunteers have done the Cretans material good. In a military point of view, they do none. The islanders are versed in the style of fighting best fitted to the country, and are brave as men can be; the volunteers, in general, are neither one nor the other. The newly-arrived Mainiotes are worth all the others put together, as of temper and habits akin to the Cretans.

"The spring is now on us—all the worst difficulties for the insurgents surmounted. They feel the effect of European sympathy; to a certain extent they expect results from it, for in their simple and natural way they imagine that when the world is convinced of the justice of their cause it will act upon that conviction.

"It is not to be doubted that, if left entirely and indefinitely to themselves in their conflict with the forces of the whole Ottoman empire, they must finally succumb; but for the forces now actually present, the present means of resistance suffice, until hope shall be taken away that some day Europe will hear and help them. It is this hope that has kept resistance alive, and this they will not abandon without more discouraging proofs than they have had. They count the Christian bond for more than it is; they keep amongst their old superstitions one that great and civilised nations must will and do what is just.

"Of definite and important military news we have very little. The troops debarked along the coast of Sphakia spend their time and lives in vain attempts to hammer a way through some of the entrances into the mountains: notably Agios Rumeli, where fighting has taken place for the last fortnight, off and on, and was still going on yesterday, when the Talia passed there, bringing back the new envoyé of the Sultan, who arrived here two or three days ago, set off at once to see Mustapha, and has just this morning returned. She brings a report that the Pacha intended going by sea to some point east of Sphakia, and crossing thence by land to the Apokorona and Canéa. He himself, it was reported, would return to Canéa in two or three days. It is safe to deny in advance any reports of submissions, &c., which may reach you via Constantinople. There has been a good deal of money spent and many promises made; but the former has lost a good deal of its influence, and the latter all of their value; and I shall venture the opinion that any agreement of the Sphakiotes with Mustapha will be based on the condition that they are let alone.

"As for the other sections of the island, they are let alone without any agreement. The Turkish forces are so much reduced in number that concentration becomes a measure of safety; and if, as we hear, the Egyptian contingent should be recalled, the remains of the Turkish force will barely suffice to hold the walled places and dépôts."



VOLUNTEERS ENTERING THE ROADSTEAD OF THE PIRÆUS.

APPREHENDED FENIAN RAID AT CHESTER.

MUCH alarm has been caused this week in Chester by an apprehended raid of Fenians upon the ancient city. The particulars of this affair will be gathered from the following summary of information now in the hands of Mr. Fenwick, the chief constable of Chester:—

The Fenians have recently organised in New York a band of fifty, whose special mission it is to proceed to England and Ireland and endeavour to resuscitate the dying brotherhood. These men are understood to have arrived in England. Fifteen of them are stationed in the metropolis, and there form a directory. Eight of them are ex-officers of the American army. There are also similar directories at Liverpool, at Manchester, at Leeds, at Glasgow, and at Birmingham. For some time past these directories have been making arrangements to concentrate their forces upon some place which was to have been named on Friday week. This was not done, but a meeting was called for Sunday at Liverpool, and it was then resolved to attack Chester Castle the following day, seize the arms deposited there, cut the telegraph wires, tear up the rails, and make good their escape by rail to Holyhead, and trust to fortune to get across to Ireland. What arrangements were to be made for their reception in Ireland has not transpired. It was also understood that they would attack the banks and jewellers' shops. It was also given out freely at the meeting why Chester Castle was selected. Up to midnight on Sunday Chester was not protected by more than half a dozen soldiers, on guard at the castle, and twice as many unarmed policemen in the city. Under their protection were no less than 9000 stand of arms (a few weeks ago there were 30,000, but the bulk have been removed for conversion into breech-loaders,) 4000 swords, and 900,000 rounds of ammunition, in addition to powder in bulk. There were also stored in another part of the castle 900 stand of arms belonging to the militia; and in a small building in the city were 200 stand of arms belonging to the volunteers. It was stated

that the whole force stationed at the castle was one company of the 54th Regiment, and that they were disaffected. It was stated in proof of this that they had admitted Fenian officers, shown them through the barracks, the armoury, and, in fact, permitted them to acquaint themselves thoroughly with the place.

The first intimation received in Chester of the intended raid was at 12.30 a.m. on Monday, by Mr. Fenwick from Mr. Superintendent Ryde and Detective Inspector Carlisle, of Liverpool, and was to the effect that an ex-officer of the American army, who produced his commission as an officer in the Fenian service, had revealed the whole plot to them. The Mayor of Chester lives at Broughton Hall, in Flintshire, so Mr. Fenwick at once saw Mr. Maysmor Williams, the Deputy-Mayor, and from him went to the commandant of the detachment at the castle. Prompt measures were taken, and the commandant telegraphed to the Assistant Adjutant-General at Manchester for a reinforcement. They next went to the station, and gave instructions for the trains to be watched as they arrived. At 2.30 a batch of thirty fellows arrived from Liverpool, and were evidently under the command of an officer. They marched up and down the platform by twos and threes, and at length took possession of the first-class refreshment-room. They were soon followed by further detachments of from thirty to sixty, from Liverpool, and some from Manchester, all of similar appearance. These dispersed quietly into the town. Early in the morning the volunteers were called out; but as there was some doubt as to whether they could act except in case of invasion, a telegram was sent to Mr. Walpole, and his answer was that volunteers ought not to be employed in their military capacity in quelling disturbances, but in point of law they would be justified in acting as individuals in aid of the civil power, and in a serious emergency they might use their arms if necessary. The volunteers were thereupon sworn in as special constables. By the assistance of the police at Liverpool and Manchester, the Chester police were kept apprised of the different departures of suspected bodies of men. At three o'clock it was ascertained that over 500 of these men had arrived. About the same time it was ascertained that a number of their officers had been in Chester over night. Early in the afternoon the strangers became much bolder, and assembled in threatening bodies. Fortunately at this time a company of the 54th Regiment arrived from Manchester, and the police are strongly inclined to think that this fact saved the castle from an attack early in the evening. Affairs went very quietly up to four o'clock, when a train from Manchester and Stalybridge brought a reinforcement of 400 in one batch. Later on forty men arrived from Halifax and seventy from Leeds. Shortly after five it was ascertained that the Fenians numbered from 1400 to 1500. A number of men who were supposed to be their leaders collected at a house where the police had been informed they would meet for orders.

Spies and scouts had been sent out among the Fenians early in day, but found them extremely reticent, and could get no clue from them. At six p.m. these scouts brought information that the men were forming in column on the Liverpool and other principal roads.

Captain Smith, the county chief constable, had draughted a body of the county constabulary into the castle to assist the military. Telegrams were forwarded from time to time to the Secretary of State. A copy of the following anonymous letter sent to Major Greig, chief of the Liverpool police, on Monday morning, was received by Mr. Fenwick in the evening, and coincided singularly with the information already in his possession:—

Dear Sir,—You could do your country much service, as at present there are 600 men in Chester, to be increased by night to 700, to take the arms and ammunition of the garrison; and, as the garrison is disaffected, it is supposed they will do it with little loss. They are to leave Birkenhead by every train from the first in the morning. All to be there by seven at the latest. They leave in numbers of from thirty to sixty in every train.

At night Mr. Johnson, the Mayor, convened a public meeting, which was most earnest; and over 500 citizens were sworn in as special constables, and paraded the town in large bodies throughout the night. It was deemed desirable to call out the yeomanry, and for that purpose the permission of Earl Grosvenor and Lord de Tabley was telegraphed for. Earl Grosvenor replied that he would come down by the night mail; and, accordingly, he and Lord Richard Grosvenor arrived in Chester at 12.48 on Tuesday morning and remained with the magistrates through the night. Before leaving London, Earl Grosvenor communicated with the Commander-in-Chief, who at once telegraphed that he had ordered a battalion of Guards by special train to Chester. During the night the Fenians evidently came to the conclusion that the preparations were too much for them; and as the night advanced parties of tens and twenties were seen leaving, on foot, for Warrington and other neighbouring towns.

Although all danger of any serious attempt had died away after the town's meeting, the police were kept on duty, as many suspicious characters were still to be seen in the streets. About nine o'clock on Tuesday morning two haversacks with green bands and a quantity of ball cartridges of private make were discovered on a piece of vacant land close to the railway station. Shortly after this three or four suspicious-looking fellows were arrested in the station-yard, and, being unable to give any satisfactory account of themselves, were sent back to Manchester, whence they said they had come. After this all was quiet again, except the assembly of a large crowd in the station-yard, until a quarter to eleven o'clock, when a special train, conveying the first battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards, drew up, and as they formed on the platform, 500 strong, they were received by the inhabitants with a cheer which showed how much their anxieties were removed by their arrival.

In the afternoon the city magistrates held a meeting—the Mayor presiding. Much satisfaction at the prompt arrival of the Scots Fusilier Guards was expressed, and it was thought that their presence afforded the city ample security without the necessity for swearing in more special constables.

Among the ammunition found in the morning was a number of revolver bullets.

It is but right to add that in other quarters the whole affair is regarded as an "elaborate hoax." A correspondent, writing from Liverpool on Tuesday, says:—

Towards the afternoon a change came over the spirit of those who dreamed of rebellion, and it gradually became apparent that the Fenians in Chester were not the descendants of Fion, and that the intended attack on Chester Castle was a mere mantle thrown out to cover something of a less disastrous character, but still something in the fighting line. Nor were those who suspected the "march of the Fenians on Liverpool and Chester"—as the newsboys cried out—to be a joke doomed to be disappointed; for in the course of the afternoon the following despatch was received from Chester:—"The alarm in Chester, caused by a reported muster of Fenians there, turns out to be a hoax, got up by sporting men to divert the attention of the magistrates from a prize-fight which came off this morning." Thus ends the late Fenian "raid."

THE GLORIOUS UNCERTAINTY OF THE LAW.—Two farmers, neighbours and friends, attracted by an advertisement, proceeded to the city of Peterborough to a sale by auction of certain beasts which had been left on the hands of the Great Northern Railway Company. One of them bought at the auction ten beasts, the other some twenty or thirty. The beasts were conveyed to the farms of the respective purchasers, where they at once sickened of the rinderpest and died. The disease spread to the herds of the two farmers, and they both found themselves with their cattle dead, their sheds and provender infected. Both immediately commenced actions against the Great Northern Railway Company. The one got a verdict for £1200, in fact within £40 of all that was claimed in the declaration, and the Court of Queen's Bench refused a rule to disturb the decision of the jury. In the action brought by the other, the verdict passed for the defendants, and that verdict was upheld in the Queen's Bench and the Court of Error. The result was that the latter plaintiff not only lost the purchased beasts, the infected beasts, and suffered other damage, but incurred a liability to pay some £400 or £500 in costs. The successful plaintiff, Mr. Corne, jun., sued on an oral warranty given by the auctioneer. That these two farmers, neighbours and friends, buying beasts from the same herd, at the same auction, suffering the same loss, and suing the same defendant, will comprehend why the results of their respective actions were so strangely different is conceivable; but that they should ever believe for the future in justice, or in the victory of the right over the wrong, is a possibility.—*Law Journal.*

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE political world is in a ferment; Disraeli has thrown down the gauntlet, and it will be taken up, and we shall have a battle—many battles, perhaps. But which party will ultimately gain the victory? In short, will the Government scheme be carried or not? At the close of Disraeli's speech there was a general opinion amongst the Liberals that the question was virtually settled; every Liberal that we met said that it was impossible that the Government could win. "It is absurd!" "The House will never accede to such proposals as these!" were the remarks which one heard from nine out of ten of the Liberals that one talked with. But it must be confessed that the tone of the party is not quite so confident as it was. That all the Government resolutions will be carried is not believed; probably some of them will not be proposed; but a suspicion is creeping over the House that the Adullamites are already in communication with the Government, and that, if the Government and the men of the Cave can come to terms, as, as some say they will, the Opposition will find that they will have their work to do ere they gain a victory. Indeed, the Adullamites boast that they are masters of the situation, and have the game in their hands. Whether this be true I cannot say, confidently. All I know at present is, that the men of the Cave are very confident and do not hesitate to assert that the Government scheme, with certain modifications, will be carried and a bill introduced and passed. To me this, I confess, seems impossible; but, as I have said, I cannot speak confidently, because, you see, I have not had time to ascertain exactly what is going on. A notable Adullamite puts it in this way:—"We are," he says, "now a strong party; but many more of the Liberals, either because they do not want a dissolution or because they perceive that if they do not accept the Government measure they will have to accept something worse, will join us; and, with their aid, we shall give the Government a good working majority." And if what he says be true, no doubt there is a good prospect of carrying the Government scheme. But we must remember that partisans are always sanguine, and are very apt to believe what they wish to be true. For my part—apart from other trustworthy evidence to the contrary—it appears to me impossible that this scheme can be carried. By this I mean that it can become law. But then, what will the scheme ultimately be? The Adullamites, as I have said, are already in communication with the Government, who, it is alleged, have consented to modify their plan. The plurality of votes resolution, for example, I hear, is to be given up; and if this does occur there is no knowing what may happen. The scheme may be very different to what it is now, and may be made sufficiently attractive to allure a good number more of the Liberal waverers, and thus defeat all calculations. But if the Government should abide sternly by their plan, as Disraeli revealed it, I cannot think that it will pass.

But in calculating probabilities we must remember two things. First, against the scheme: it will not be settled by one or two divisions. We may have any number of amendments on the motion "That Mr. Speaker do leave the chair" (for these resolutions are to be proposed in a Committee of the whole House), and a debate and division on every amendment; and, further, debates and divisions on each separate resolution, and on every stage of the bill. And it would seem all but impossible that the scheme can be carried through without serious mutilation. But then, second, for the Government: Disraeli has announced that he means to bow to the decision of the House—to coalesce with the House, so to speak—and accept whatever it shall decide upon; and that, if defeated, the Government will not resign. This is a very novel principle to act upon; entirely unprecedented, I believe. And, this being so, of course, all calculations are baffled. It is said that he means to propose household suffrage, or meant to propose it; and we know that he intended to propose as a counterpoise plurality of votes to the property classes; but if he has consented to withdraw the latter proposition, or if he should make it and be defeated, will he adhere to the former? And so, you see, altogether, it is impossible to say what will happen; and here I leave the matter, with this bit of news, which is now whispered about. Mr. Disraeli means, as I have said, to propose household suffrage, and he means also to propose that every voter having two or more votes may give them all to one candidate.

But now, what of the Royal Commission to regulate the boundaries of boroughs and the bill introduced by Mr. Hunt to promote uniformity of rating? Is the Reform Bill to be delayed till the Royal Commission has reported and the bill for uniformity of rates has been passed? Not necessarily: the Reform Bill may be passed and the operation of it delayed.

I do not believe that there is any truth in the announcement of the *Pall Mall Gazette* that some of the Ministers (not in the Cabinet) are about to resign.

What an infinite deal of nonsense has been talked about the Reform League demonstration of Monday last! The leaguers themselves began the folly by some rather absurd boasting of what they would do—the numbers they would bring out, and so forth—on the occasion. They would have done much better to have left that style of "tall talk" alone. Earnest men don't indulge in "bounce." It matters very little whether "the clubs are astonished" or not; and failure to do what is promised, affords excellent scope for the excursions of shallow reasoners and small widdings. And marvellously shallow reasoners and wonderfully small widdings have been at work on the display of Monday. First, certain journalists and writers of letters to the newspapers worked themselves into the belief, or affected to have done so, that some dreadful deeds were contemplated by these atrocious Radicals, as if there had never been popular gatherings—and peaceful and orderly popular gatherings, too—in this country before. In fact, I suspect that we have now in London a generation of journalists and would-be politicians who are exceedingly juvenile in mind, and who are about as silly as they are "green." Then a deal of "bosh" was talked about the "intolerable nuisance" of having the "traffic of this great city" interrupted "for an entire day," when the twaddlers must have known that no such thing would occur as an interruption of traffic "for an entire day," and that gangs of paviors and the emissaries of gas and water companies are every day in the habit of causing infinitely greater obstructions in the streets than were likely to be occasioned by the procession in which Mr. Beales's colleagues and followers aided themselves and their finery. For my part, I don't believe in processions. Such exhibitions, in my opinion, only serve two purposes—namely, to gratify the vanity of the few leaders and to make the bulk of the processionists ridiculous. They prove nothing but that men largely share the gregarious character of that useful but not very strong-minded animal—the sheep: whatever path is taken by the bell-wether is sure to be followed by the bulk of the flock. But this is true, not merely of political, but of all descriptions of processions, including even those in which noble and illustrious personages figure at Court and elsewhere. The climax of absurdity, however, was perpetrated by those who pretended to lay down the law on the subject of the legality or non-legality of the demonstration, and who even refused to accept the authority of the law officers of the Crown—Lord Chelmsford, Sir John Rolt, Sir John B. Karslake, and the rest—upon the point. Lawyers, as a rule, seldom volunteer legal opinions gratis; and in that they show themselves sensible and wise; for, whenever they depart from the rule of not opening their mouths save on golden consideration, they show themselves to be weak as other men. At all events, certain volunteer legists have done so in a very marked manner in the demonstration of Monday. Conspicuous among these would-be judicial luminaries, who believe they know the law better than its official exponents, is Mr. "William G. De Gruyther," of "1, Old Church street, Edgware-road," who has made the astounding discovery that "the Act which determines a lawful meeting is the 13th of Car. II., sec. 1, c. 5; and according to it no meeting consisting of more than twenty persons is legal, unless convened with the order and sanction of three or more justices;" and who is also in a position "to state that all military marshalling and filing without authority is illegal, and that the badges and banners employed on such occasions can be impounded." There! how dare Mr. Beales and his confederates, the Lord Chancellor and his colleagues, contravene that dictum? Has not

the learned De Gruyther hunted up for their edification an Act passed in the reign of that great ensample of purity in private morals, strict respecter of constitutional rights, and encourager of popular freedom—Charles II. of honoured memory! Can Mr. De Gruyther have been in earnest, or did he only perpetrate a clumsy joke when he proposed that we should retrograde two hundred years in political history, and consent in the reign of Victoria, one of the best and most constitutional of monarchs, to be ruled by laws enacted in the time of—to put it mildly—one of the least worthy kings who ever swayed the destinies of England? Does not Mr. De Gruyther know that such enactments as he quotes, if they still disgrace the statute-book, have long since been made obsolete by the rights won by the people in a succession of struggles against bad laws and bad administrators since at least 1817 downwards? It is too late now, Messrs. De Gruyther and Co., to flourish in our faces the old musty tyrannical laws of "Car. II.," ay, and even of a much later period! The people of this country successfully faced all that kind of thing in 1830-31-32, and on other occasions; and are not to be frightened from their propriety by ghosts from the reign of Charles II.; no, not even though evoked by the wisdom and learning of a De Gruyther.

I have paid a passing visit to Mr. Gambart's exhibition, to see what new pictures have been added recently. There is a curious work by Mr. Whistler, who has just returned from a voyage to the southern seas. It represents a twilight scene in some bay of the lower hemisphere, and is painted with a masterly touch. Looked at closely, it seems an unmeaning jumble of daubs and dashes; but, at the proper distance, everything falls into its proper place, and a vividly truthful view opens before the spectator. A remarkable painting, by Mr. H. Moore, of a Roman lady in a semi-transparent robe, reclining on a couch, is another addition. It is painted in the pure but somewhat cold style which marks the works of this clever artist, whose drawing is simply marvellous. I am sorry I cannot recall the name of the lady who has painted "Butterfly, the Messenger of Titania," which is a very beautiful little figure. The butterflies are as brilliant as real butterflies, and the face is exquisite.

The drawing of the British and Foreign Art-Union took place the other day. The prize—a fine picture by Stroobant, of the Palace of Casimir the Great, at Cracow—has fallen to the Cercle Artistique et Littéraire of Brussels, which were entitled to a chance as holding shares in the International Society of Fine Arts. The picture was exhibited at the Brighton exhibition of this last-named association, and is a very fine work.

Mr. Nathan Hughes, who paints against time (but Time will have his revenge, for Mr. Hughes's pictures will hardly go down to posterity), is advertising for information about the Regent's-Park calamity and for the "professional tragic models." It is a pity that a terrible accident should be turned to sensation purposes in this way; and the worst of it is that, to judge from his "Santiago" and "Hyde-Park Riot" pictures, Mr. Hughes's rendering will be calculated to excite mirth rather than melancholy.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Fortnightly Review* contains a very amusing notice, by Mr. Hayward, of Lady Herbert's "Impressions of Spain." The following anecdotes, though neither of them new, are too good ever to be counted dull:—

A good story is introduced apropos of the beautiful Maria de Padilla's bath. It was the custom of the gallants of her day to drink the water in which the ladies had bathed, and Pedro reproached one of his knights for not complying with this custom. "Sire," he replied, "I should fear lest, having tasted the sauce, I should covet the bird." A modern gallant might have been less cautious. It is recorded in the *Viceregal annals* of Ireland that one day at a castle dinner, after the beautiful Duchess of Rutland had dipped her fingers in a water-glass, General St. Leger caught it up and drank off the contents. "If you want another draught, St. Leger," calmly remarked the Duke, "the Duchess dips her feet in hot water before going to bed."

At last Mr. Seymour fully and handsomely withdraws every word of which Mr. Jacob Bright had complained in the name of Mr. John Bright. It is done in a proper manner—in large type, at the head of the Political Summary, and not in a corner and with an unwilling shrug. "The White Rose" is, as I said before, more readable by average people than "Vittoria," surcharged with meaning, was; but it is a little vulgar. In the *Causerie*, the editor takes a view of the question concerning the professorship of poetry at Oxford, with which I cordially agree—he thinks that Mr. Ruskin should have the post (in preference to Sir F. H. Doyle), because, whatever some of his opinions may be, he has proved himself a thinker of high impregnating power. This is not only the true view of this (or any similar) question; it is so strictly the kind of view which only generous minus are in the habit of taking, that I cannot help asking Mr. Morley whether he does not feel that the scarcely-ever-absent contemptuousness of his manner does him injustice? I almost always agree with what he says; but I almost always dislike his way of saying even his best things. There is, among the critical notices, a short—but admirable one of "Engel's National Music" by that most accomplished gentleman, Mr. J. M. Cape. Surely the question he discusses on the top of page 251 is merely one of nomenclature, arising only when music is written down? Mr. Trollope makes mincemeat of the "argument" of Mr. Sewall's "Temperance" ballad, "The Rose of Cheron." A capital review, Mr. Trollope; but where did you learn that the robin does not sing in autumn? Perhaps there is a slip of the pen, but that is what the sentence, strictly construed, comes to. Not "in the dark," admitted; but "in autumn," assuredly, yes. Perhaps "birds" should have been "other birds." The editor on "Edmund Burke" is well worth reading, and, considered as criticism, I think almost wholly in the right.

Mrs. Gatty's *Aunt Judy's Magazine* is, as usual, most charming. The music to a child's "Good-night!" is extremely pretty. The author of "Princess Pekkishlips" is again asked for. Where is he? for a gentleman the writer evidently is. It is a capital little story—one of those real good things that make you want to go and read them to somebody else.

I have received a periodical called *The Scattered Nation*, with a lithographed note; but, I am sorry to say, it inspires me with no kind feelings whatever. One writer speaks of the contempt of the Jews for certain approaches from the other side. I don't wonder at it! If the other side will apprentice themselves to the ancient people for a short time, till they have gathered the true meaning of certain things which they now pervert in ways that must provoke a Jew's contempt, they will stand a chance of increasing their propagandist power. At present I scarcely see how a member of the ancient people can do anything but despise their platitudes of construction.

The *British Controversialist* is a very good magazine, which I described once before. On that occasion I said I didn't believe in any such book as Mr. Tuckerman's "Table-Talker." My reason was that I had before me an old magazine in which it was called Tuckerman's "Table Talk;" but I have since ascertained that the *British Controversialist* was right in quoting the other title.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The only theatrical event of any importance during the past week is the revival of Holcroft's antiquated comedy, "The Road to Ruin," at the St. James's. Holcroft, in common with the Colmans and other dramatists of the last and early portion of the present century, fell into the clumsy error of individualising his characters by giving each a key-note which it became his duty to strike incessantly throughout the piece. Thus, in "The Road to Ruin," Old Dorton has little to do but to show how fond he is of his scapegrace son; Young Dorton's duty is to show that filial affection may co-exist with reckless debauchery; Sully is the exponent of gruff honesty, and has nothing to do but to be gruffly honest throughout the piece. So with the Widow Warren, Goldfinch, and the smaller characters. This peculiarity has the effect of rather boring a modern audience, who have learnt to expect two or three sides to every character placed before them, without

sufficient reference, perhaps, to the consistency of the various phases exhibited by each individual. The absence of anything like "situation" is a serious drawback to the successful revival of such a piece as "The Road to Ruin;" and the fact that it has been placed upon the stage in the shabbiest manner by the management is not calculated to atone for that deficiency. Any success which the revival may achieve will be due entirely to the excellent acting of Messrs. Frank Matthews, Irving, Walter Lacy, and Stoyile, to Mrs. Frank Matthews's admirable impersonation of the Widow Warren, and to Miss Bolton's capital performance of the pretty *ragée*, Sophia. Miss Herbert was to have played this part: I am sorry to say that severe indisposition has kept her out of the bills. Miss Herbert deserves much credit for her good intentions in reviving so many celebrated old comedies; but she must not expect that, by taking a piece for which she does not pay a halfpenny and placing it on the stage with worn-out scenery and anachronous dresses, she is likely to realise very large profits. *Ex nihilo nihil fit.*

I went, the other day, to ST. MARTIN'S HALL to see the Japanese jugglers. Some of their performances are extremely curious—notably, the top-spinning and the butterfly-trick; but many are clumsy and *rococo* in the extreme. Much time was lost in making preparations which should have been arranged before the audience were admitted into the exhibition-room, and this had the effect of seriously interfering with the due enjoyment of the performance. I suspect that the tricks are too few in number to fill up the customary two hours in a legitimate way; but it would be better to give a short, sharp, crisp entertainment of an hour's length than a dull and tedious one of twice that duration. The top-trick and the butterfly-trick are quite ingenious enough in themselves to send an audience home delighted, if the audience's temper is not spoiled by wearisome delays such as those that preceded these performances when I was present. The acrobats are agile, but not more remarkably so than their British brethren of the London music-halls. It is only fair to the jugglers to mention that the principal member of their troupe is an invalid, and unable to join in the performances.

The benefit performance for the widow and children of the late Mr. Henry Webb will take place at DRURY-LANE THEATRE, on Feb. 21. The bill will contain almost every theatrical name of eminence, and visitors to London whose time is limited, and who care to see what London actors are like, cannot do better than secure places for this performance. They will see every actor and actress of prominence in the course of a single afternoon, and they will also have the satisfaction of contributing to a most deserving charity.

Mr. Watts Phillips's "Lost in London," which (to quote the advertisement) "was in active preparation five years ago, and twice since, even to the painting of the scenery each time," but which was delayed by the successes of "The Colleen Bawn," "Leah," and "Rip Van Winkle," is about to be produced at the ADELPHI, as it does not appear that the success of "A Sister's Penance" is so great as to warrant the further postponement of Mr. Phillips's piece.

GARRICK DRAMATIC CLUB.

I had much pleasure in attending the second performance this season of this well-known club, on Tuesday evening last, and found their pretty bijou theatre at Penton Hall well filled by a most select audience. The programme comprised the petite comedy, "Love in Humble Life," the drama of "Charles the Second," and the farce, "Cool as a Cucumber;" the whole being represented in a manner which would do credit to many of our London theatres. Mr. Hamilton deserves commendation for his careful rendering of the difficult part of Ronslaus, in the opening piece of the evening, and was capital seconded by Mr. W. S. Johnson, who showed considerable humour as Carlitz. In the drama of "Charles the Second" the palm must be awarded to Mr. H. Esmond (the director of the club), who gave a vigorous delineation of the bluff old Captain Copp, which found great favour with the audience; and to Mr. Edward Boulton, whose representation of the Earl of Rochester exhibited the possession of cultivated histrionic talent. The King himself was cleverly sustained by Mr. A. H. Meadows. Miss Austin appeared as Mary Copp, which she played well, and sang the incidental song prettily. A word of praise must be given for the beautiful scenery, painted, as I understood, expressly for the piece by C. S. James, Esq., and the magnificent dresses worn by the principal characters. The concluding farce, "Cool as a Cucumber," was rattled through by Mr. Boulton. He was ably supported by Mr. Johnson as old Barkins, and the audience were kept in continual laughter all through the piece.

THE LIBERAL PARTY.—As was naturally to be anticipated, the resolutions proposed by the Government have at once been taken into the most serious consideration by the Liberal party. A meeting was held on Tuesday, consisting of the prominent leaders of the Opposition, at which opinions were declared so much in disapproval of the resolutions, that we may expect at no distant day to see this general feeling of dissatisfaction take distinct shape. A meeting of the party is to be called for next week.—*The Outlook.*

THE ARMY.—We understand that the scheme for the reorganisation of the Army is now nearly complete in its details, which, when announced in the House of Commons, will not be found to coincide on all points with the recommendations of the Royal Commissioners on recruiting. The militia will be made the foundation of the active Army. Men will be enlisted for twelve years instead of ten as at present; seven of these will be spent in the Army available for general service, the remaining five in the militia, under certain advantageous conditions. A measure will be proposed for obtaining their further service at the end of the twelve years. Non-commissioned officers and men will still be permitted to re-engage in the Army and serve for pension. Such, we believe, will be the leading features of the plan. The difficulties of the details are, of course, financial; but the House of Commons will, without doubt, afford the Government the means of carrying into effect their scheme if it can be shown that it will give the country sufficient available force for general service, and an efficient reserve to rely upon in case of need.—*The Outlook.*

THE ST. PANCRAS WORKHOUSE.—On Tuesday, at the weekly meeting of the St. Pancras Board of Guardians, some very startling and unexpected revelations were made respecting the condition and management of the workhouse smallpox wards. Dr. Markham, medical poor-law inspector, presented himself before the board, and said he attended in consequence of a communication which had been made to the Poor-Law Board on the subject of smallpox cases in the wards of St. Pancras Workhouse. He had just examined those wards, and he must say that he scarcely ever saw wards in a more unsatisfactory state, more calculated to spread the disease. He had understood that there had been not less than sixteen cases since the 9th of November last; and he found that with regard to clothing not only had no steps been taken for its disinfection, but they were tucked under the beds of the patients, and allowed to remain there till the patients recovered. They were then given them to put on. He found that the sheets and blankets were not changed, and the nurse had informed him that very often patients were put under the sheets and blankets that had just been used by other patients, and that she had to get the sheets and blankets as best she could. The same remark applied in cases where persons had died. The things they had used were used again without being disinfected. With regard to the superintendence of the wards, he had ascertained that there was only one nurse in them during the day, and during the night only one old woman, who was seventy-one years of age. There was only one night-stool for each ward, and if more than one patient required it at once they had to go across a stoneyard. He could not help saying that this state of things was most dangerous, and he could not tell to what extent the disease had been propagated in the wards by it. That day there were thirty-seven cases in the wards. He thought it would be better for the board to take immediate steps to remedy this state of things than to wait for any direct application and investigation by the Poor-Law Board. The chairman (Mr. Watson) and other members of the board called Dr. Markham's attention to the fact that by deputation and otherwise they had frequently urged upon the Poor-Law Board the necessity of providing hospital accommodation for smallpox cases. Dr. Markham said he had understood that was the case, and he had no doubt they gave all the accommodation in their power. What he complained of was the system which allowed the wards to run into the condition in which he had found them. Mr. North said if he was ever surprised at anything in his life it was at the statement with respect to their sheets and blankets, for they were articles of which there was a superabundance at the disposal of each ward. He was equally astonished at the statement that the clothes were allowed to remain under the beds. It was only another instance of the shocking weakness of the present management of their workhouse. Other members of the board expressed their surprise at the statements that had been made, of which they had no previous experience. Dr. Markham said if gentlemen doubted his word they could accompany him to the wards and he would show them that what he had stated was correct. A resolution was then passed to at once appoint more nurses, and refer the whole matter to the house committee to remedy the evils complained of by Dr. Markham.

THE GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS UPON REFORM.

THE following is a copy of the resolutions to be moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in Committee of the whole House on Monday, Feb. 25:—

"This House having, in the last Session of Parliament, assented to the second reading of a bill entitled 'A Bill to extend the right of Voting at Elections of Members of Parliament in England and Wales,' is of opinion,—

"1. That the number of electors for counties and boroughs in England and Wales ought to be increased.

"2. That such increase may best be effected by both reducing the value of the qualifying tenement in counties and boroughs, and by adding other franchises not dependent on such value.

"3. That while it is desirable that a more direct representation should be given to the labouring class, it is contrary to the Constitution of this realm to give to any one class or interest a predominating power over the rest of the community.

"4. That the occupation franchise in counties and boroughs shall be based upon the principle of rating.

"5. That the principle of plurality of votes, if adopted by Parliament, would facilitate the settlement of the borough franchise on an extensive basis.

"6. That it is expedient to revise the existing distribution of seats.

"7. That in such revision it is not expedient that any borough now represented in Parliament should be wholly disfranchised.

"8. That, in revising the existing distribution of seats, this House will acknowledge, as its main consideration, the expediency of supplying representation to places not at present represented, and which may be considered entitled to that privilege.

"9. That it is expedient that provision should be made for the better prevention of bribery and corruption at elections.

"10. That it is expedient that the system of registration of voters in counties should be assimilated, as far as possible, to that which prevails in boroughs.

"11. That it shall be open to every Parliamentary elector, if he thinks fit, to record his vote by means of a polling-paper, duly signed and authenticated.

"12. That provision be made for diminishing the distance which voters have to travel for the purpose of recording their votes, so that no expenditure for such purpose shall hereafter be legal.

"13. That a humble address be presented to her Majesty praying her Majesty to issue a Royal commission to form and submit to the consideration of Parliament a scheme for new and enlarged boundaries of the existing Parliamentary boroughs where the population extends beyond the limits now assigned to such boroughs; and to fix, subject to the decision of Parliament, the boundaries of such other boroughs as Parliament may deem fit to be represented in this House."

THE COMMONS PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

THE council of this society have just held a meeting, at their offices in Parliament-street, for the purpose of electing a president and deliberating upon their course of action with respect to the metropolitan commons said to be improperly assailed. Among those present were Mr. Shaw Lefevre, M.P. (in the chair); the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P.; Mr. J. S. Mill, M.P.; Sir Fowell Buxton, M.P.; Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P.; Mr. Gilbert Marshall, Mr. Gurney Hoare, Mr. Charles Pollock, and Mr. R. Du Cane. Mr. W. Cowper, M.P., was unanimously elected president of the society, and accepted the position. Epping Forest, Blackheath, and Hampstead-heath were again subjects of discussion, and correspondence relating to what is acquiring some notoriety as "the Willingale case" was read by the secretary. The Willingales are labouring men living at Loughton, near Epping Forest, one of whom exercised the right of cutting wood on what has been held from time immemorial to be common land. The lord of the manor, a clergyman, prosecuted him for this, and he was committed to prison by the local Bench. The matter was subsequently taken up by those interested in the preservation of common rights, and the case of the copyholders and the public, as represented by Willingale, is being argued before the Master of the Rolls. Meanwhile the man himself has been turned out of his cottage by his landlord, who is also the lord of the manor, and deprived of his means of support; and Mr. Shaw Lefevre, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., agreed to act as co-trustees to a fund to recompense him for the losses he had incurred. Upon this a Mr. Samuel L. Howard, J.P., of the Goldings, Loughton, took Mr. Hughes to task, and a brisk correspondence followed. Mr. Howard warned Mr. Hughes that Willingale was "an undeserving character," that his family was "one of the worst brought up in the parish," that "parents and children seldom or never attend any place of worship, and that the latter never go to day, night, or Sunday school." Mr. Howard concludes by apologising to Mr. Hughes, to whom he was an entire stranger, for his letter, "which is only prompted by an Englishman's love of justice and fair play." Two other letters from Mr. Howard followed, in each of which the Willingales' utter worthlessness was proclaimed. Mr. Hughes having asked in vain "for the specific grounds upon which the bad character of the Willingales" was spoken of, added that he "must have precise facts and statements before withdrawing his name from a case which he considered thoroughly deserving of support and assistance." Nothing definite was heard in reply, and Mr. Hughes shared in the correspondence closed with this suggestive implication:—"I have reason to believe that you yourself are in the occupation of some thirteen acres lately inclosed from the forest; and, if so, that your evidence in this matter, volunteered against a poor family who were endeavouring to maintain old rights over the forest land, is not that of a disinterested witness." Mr. Howard considered this "insinuation most discourteous, to say the least," but did not deny its truth; and the Commons Preservation Society, having gone into the vague charges brought against the Willingales, consider them unfounded and vexatious, and that the case deserves public support.

It was further agreed to form a deputation to Lord John Manners on the subject of Epping Forest generally. Under the Crown Lands Act of last Session the forestal rights of the Crown, and the non-profitable portions of Crown property, are vested in the Chief Commission of Works, instead of the Chief Commission of Woods, and it is with the view of urging upon Lord John Manners the necessity of preserving the forest for the enjoyment of the public that the Preservation Society's action will be taken. At Blackheath, the Board of Works has been consulted by the residents; and Mr. Gurney Hoare announced that Sir Thomas Wilson had been restrained for the present in his course of building on and injury to Hampstead-heath by an ad interim injunction from the Court of Chancery. The house, the foundations of which are laid close to the flagstaff near Jack Straw's Castle, and which, if completed, would have shut out one of the choicest and most favourite views on the heath, is already some feet from the basement, and but for the legal proceedings would have been probably rooted in before this. Some weeks ago the Commons Preservation Society advised the inhabitants of Hampstead to form a local association, and sent a deputation to its initiatory meeting. The immediate result has been that building on the heath has been stopped, and those interested deprecate the interference of the Board of Works, and suggestions for the purchase of Sir Thomas Wilson's vague "rights," until their appeal to the law has shown them what those rights really are.

FATAL FIRE AT TOOTING.—An inquest was held on Wednesday on the bodies of four persons who perished in a fire at a public-house in Tooting on Monday last. An alarm of fire was given at about four o'clock in the morning; some of the inmates were aroused and escaped by the windows, but the deceased were either enfolded while asleep, or, if they heard the alarm, found their retreat cut off by the flames filling the lower part of the house, no fire-escape being at hand. This is probable, as screams were heard from some of the sufferers. The jury found the following verdict:—"That the deceased persons met their deaths accidentally by fire; and it was the opinion of the jury that the Metropolitan Fire Brigade should furnish each village with the proper means of escaping from fires."

NEW LAW PEERS.

WE understand that it is the intention of her Majesty—of course on the recommendation of her Ministers—to confer the dignity of the peerage on two eminent lawyers—the Lord Justice-General McNeill and Sir Hugh Cairns. The necessity of providing for the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords, which the increasing legal business of the country makes every year more important and more onerous, is the object of these promotions.

There is, indeed, at present no lack of Law Lords in the House. Indeed, so large a number of men raised to the peerage for their legal abilities were never congregated there before. There are no less than four ex-Chancellors—Lords Brougham, St. Leonards, Cranworth, and Westbury; and there are, besides these, Lord Wensleydale, a distinguished common lawyer, and Lord Kingsdown, a man of consummate legal knowledge, together with the actual Lord Chancellor and the Master of the Rolls. Yet it would seem that the business of the Appellate Court is likely to stand still for want of an adequate number of Judges. The days are gone by when Lord Eldon could sit with two non-legal peers, and concentrate the whole authority of the House as a court of law in his own person. The public and the profession are not content unless at least three peers learned in the law and in the full vigour of their understanding attend. To furnish such a tribunal there ought to be at least four or five Law Lords accustomed to take part in the business of the House. But though there are at present eight of them, the greater part are not available for judicial business. Lord Brougham is eighty-eight years old, Lords St. Leonards and Wensleydale are very little younger, and these three have ceased to attend appeals. Lord Kingsdown's health is infirm, and the country has lost his services both in the House of Lords and in the Privy Council. Lord Westbury is, it is understood, about to go abroad again. The Master of the Rolls cannot attend, and the Lord Chancellor is often required in his own court. It thus appears that for the present Session, when there is a large number of appeals, many of them of old standing, we have only one Law Lord who has full time to devote himself to the judicial business of the House, and that is Lord Cranworth, who is himself seventy-seven years of age. If even the Lord Chancellor join him, the House will be a very incomplete tribunal.

In this dilemma the Government have determined to raise to the peerage two eminent lawyers of their own party. The Right Hon. Duncan McNeill was Solicitor-General for Scotland during Sir Robert Peel's short Administration in 1834-5. He was Lord-Advocate from 1842 to 1846, and he has been Lord Justice-General since 1852. As so many Scotch cases are brought before the House of Lords, it is but reasonable that a Scotch lawyer should have a seat in the House, and we have no doubt that Mr. McNeill is eminently fitted for such an honour. But here, again, we have the old evil which renders the House inefficient, in spite of so many promotions. It is enough to say that the Lord Justice-General was born in 1794, and is consequently seventy-three years of age. If his peerage be a reward, well and good; but if it be conferred to increase the legal strength of the House, we may regret that its utility is likely to last but a very few Sessions. The peerage of Sir Hugh Cairns is free from any such objection. The new Lord Justice of Appeal is still young, and brings his faculties in their full vigour to the business of the House. Should he be able to spare sufficient time from the duties of his Court, he will, no doubt, render important services to the country.—*Times.*

LIBEL BILL.—The following is the arrangement of the clauses of a bill to amend the law of libel, and thereby to secure more effectually the liberty of the press, prepared and brought into the House of Commons by Sir Colman O'Loughlin and Mr. Baines:—1. No proprietor of a newspaper or periodical publication shall be liable to an action or prosecution for a faithful report of a speech at a public meeting, unless he shall decline to publish, if required, an explanation or contradiction of the statements complained of. 2. A speaker at a public meeting shall be liable to be sued and prosecuted for defamatory matter spoken by him at such meeting, as if he had written and published the same. 3. The privilege of Parliament or other public bodies shall not be affected by this Act. 4. In actions for libel the defendant shall be at liberty to pay money into court in discharge of the action. 5. When the sum paid into court is not accepted by the plaintiff in discharge of his action, the defendant may require the plaintiff to give security for costs. 6. When the damages in an action of libel do not exceed £5, the plaintiff shall not get more costs than damages. 7. Without the sanction of the law officer of the Crown no private prosecutor shall be at liberty to prefer an indictment for any libel other than a libel published with intent to extort. 8. The defendant, on the trial of an indictment or information for libel, may offer himself as a witness, and so may the defendant's wife or husband. 9. The truth of a libel may be pleaded in a short form. 10. When so pleaded, the plaintiff may get a bill of particulars of what is intended to be relied upon by the defendant. The Act is not to extend to Scotland.

MASTERS AND WORKMEN.—Lord St. Leonards has written a letter to a gentleman in the north with regard to his Masters' and Operatives' Bill. His Lordship writes:—"You have probably seen that I introduced my Masters' and Operatives' Bill into the House of Lords last evening. The only alteration which I have made is to extend the authority of the arbitrators to future wages for a period not exceeding twelve months. Both masters and operatives have asked me to extend the bill to future wages generally, which I have declined, because I told the delegates who came here last year, representing 100,000 men, to announce their acceptance of the bill, I did not think that if the state of the supply and demand proved adverse to the operatives under the award large bodies of them would hold themselves bound by it, and a resort to law would operate fatally on the plan. I have reason to be satisfied that the operatives generally are willing to accept the bill. The masters, who were once strongly in favour of it, appear now to think that it will be of no use to them. This, I think, is a mistake. The bill, you will observe, is simply permissive. The Government intend to inquire into strikes. I told the Earl of Derby that, although I approved the step, it would be found very difficult to deal with trades unions. They have become national, and they have attempted an international union, and they are now joining the Reform League. Their organisation is surprising, and their power very great. Then, they have co-operative societies, to which of themselves, no objection can be made any more than to strikes properly conducted. It is the abuse which requires correction. America, France, Belgium, and other countries are suffering from strikes. Conciliatory means like those in my bill may do much to lessen the evil; already there are non-union combinations, and these drop off from their unions. The subject is one which demands the attention of every well-wisher of his country. I told the Earl of Derby in the House last evening that I wished to co-operate with the Government, and I would therefore either read my bill a second time and take the sense of the House upon it, or let it be referred to his Committee on strikes, and he is to read the bill and let me know his views."

THE CATALOGUES OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The following circular has been issued:—"As considerable misunderstanding appears to exist concerning the various catalogues which are in course of preparation, the British Executive deem it expedient to give to the British exhibitors the fullest information in their power. The following is a translation from an official notice in the *Moniteur* of Jan. 19, 1887:—"The Imperial Commission has received several letters asking for information as to the publication of catalogues relating to the Exhibition. Each foreign commission will have the right to publish the catalogue of the exhibitors of its own country; but there will be only one general catalogue, which will be published by the Imperial Commission. The contract for this catalogue has been assigned to M. Dentu, who, with the authorisation of the Imperial Commission, has ceded to Messrs. J. M. Johnson and Son, of London, the exclusive right of inserting in the general catalogue advertisements from persons living in Great Britain, and the exclusive right of translating, publishing, and selling, throughout the Exhibition building, the said catalogue in the English language." By this notice it is plainly seen that, although there will be only one general catalogue, it is at liberty to publish a catalogue of its own productions. The catalogue of the British section of the Paris Exhibition will be published under this authority, and, as will be seen from the following extracts, it will, by permission of the Imperial Commission, be translated into other languages:—Extract from a letter from the Imperial Commission, addressed to the British Executive Commission, dated Aug. 4, 1886:—"It is well understood that, following the excellent tradition of former exhibitions, the different nations are at liberty to publish special catalogues in one or more languages." Extract from a letter dated Dec. 19, 1886:—"Her Britannic Majesty's Commission will publish a catalogue in several languages of the products exhibited in the English section, and will be at liberty to sell it in that section without any payment. In order to sell the same catalogue in the rest of the palace and in the park of the Champ de Mars, the British Executive Commission will consent that the name of M. Dentu shall appear as publisher on the covers of the entire edition, and that he be entitled to a commission of 25 per cent on the selling price." Paris Offices, South Kensington Museum, Jan. 28, 1887."



CRETAN INSURGENTS IN ACTION—SEE PAGE 164



THE SENSES: SMELLING.—(DRAWN BY MISS ADELAIDE CLAXTON.)

THE FIVE SENSES.

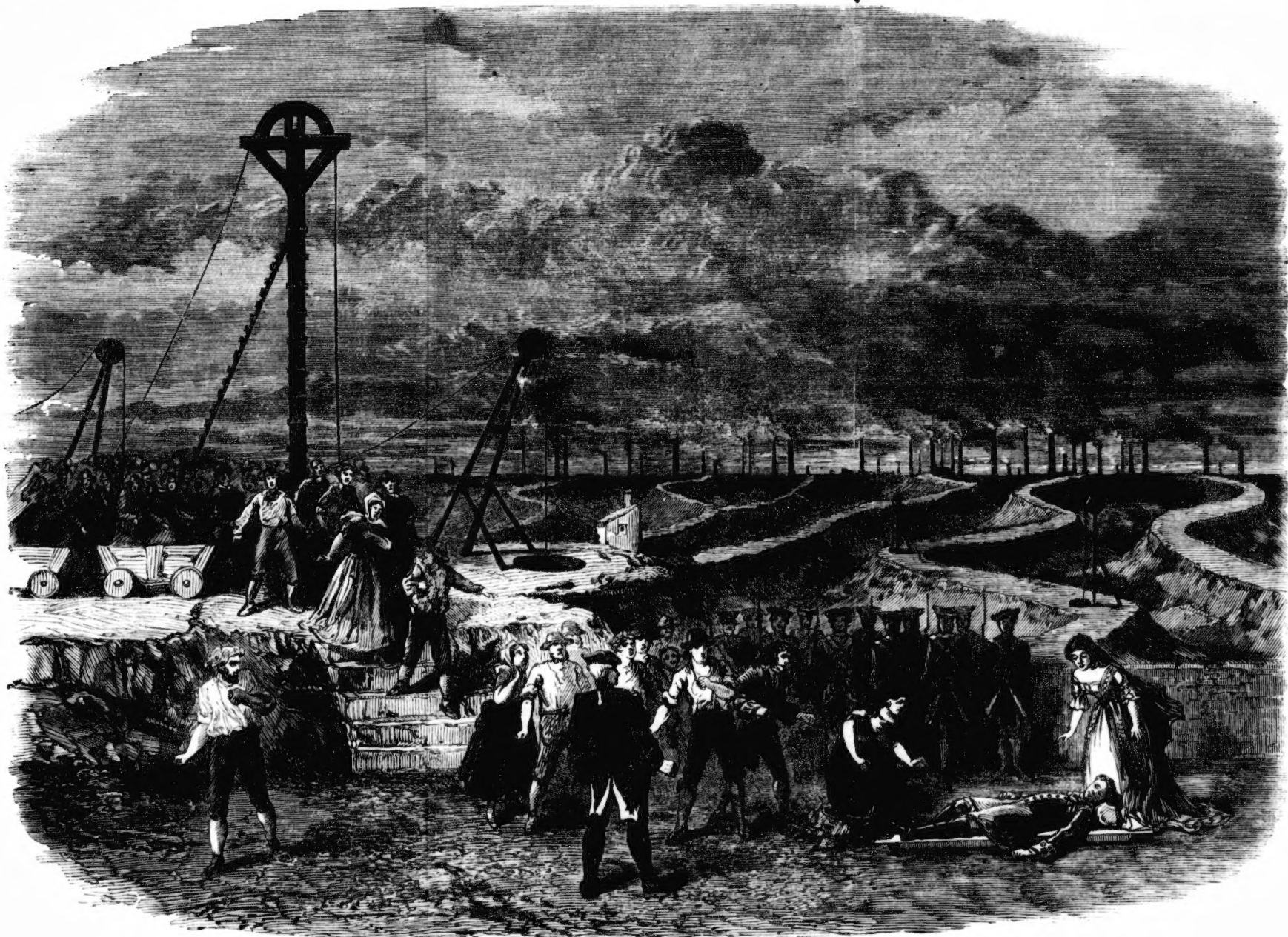
NO. IV.—SMELLING.

WOULD the rose smell as sweet by any other name? For my part, I think not; and I venture to say so even against the opinion of Juliet, who (such is the forwardness of woman) unconsciously

liked Romeo all the better because he was the heir of the rival house, and so thought the more of him because his name *was* Romeo, and raised first her curiosity and then her expectation to a pitch of unwonted interest.

"Oh! he's really a dreadful creature, dear. I've heard such

things of him, you can't think; and mamma wouldn't let one of us even *speak* to him when we met him at Scarborough; pray don't encourage him, for"—&c., &c., &c. What is the result of this sort of communication from Isabel to Beatrice but that Beatrice is quite interested in the monster, and, finding that there is something



SCENE FROM MR. T. W. ROBERTSON'S NEW DRAMA, "SHADOW-TREE SHAFT," AT THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

decidedly Romeoish about him, in spite of his wickedness, begins to think what a glory it would be to become instrumental in his conversion; and then—well, then she discovers that it was all nasty, mean prejudice on the part of Isabel, and “really wonders how people can have the face to talk like that, just because they have not succeeded in their *artful schemes*.” In fact, Isabel has overdone it; and, just as skilful chemists can combine two odious ingredients to produce the exact flavour of burgundy pears, so she has unskilfully made an interesting character by the exhibition of a few piquant wickednesses. What has that to do with the fourth sense? Well, just this. That smelling, being the weakest of our senses, it needs the help of one or more of the others; and yet, at the same time being the most subtle, it has a strange power, scarcely possessed by all the rest put together; that thus it very often happens that expectation must be excited before we can with certainty employ the power of distinction by smell—we must, in fact, be led by the nose; it requires that we should see the rose or feel its thorn, or hear that it is a rose, before we are fully alive to its exquisite odour. It is much the same with bad smells; unless they are very bad indeed ordinary people are a long time finding them out, and almost anybody may become accustomed to them. If this were not so, how could landlords keep tenants, and where would be the ease and comfort of district inspectors, who themselves live in fetid neighbourhoods? Of course there are people—officers of health and others—who go about carrying their noses as an elephant does his trunk—proboscis men, who, as it were, speak through their noses; and when one of these enters a house where he is on familiar terms, and sniffs, straightway expectation is on tiptoe, and the fourth sense awakens in everybody present.

“Sniff! sun-un-un-un-if! Something wrong with your drainage here, Mrs. Featherfew; it’s astonishing how these little arrangements get out of order. I should have it looked at once, if I were you. Landlord bound to do it, you know. Sniff! sniff! Ah, yes; there it is! I thought I couldn’t be wrong. Stoppage somewhere, I should say.”

“Dear me; now you mention it, there certainly is a nasty smell in the house. Sniff! sniff! it must have come on since the morning; there was nothing the matter then, and we are so very particular.”

“Sniff! ah ha! What a delightful odour! Bless my soul! why, it must be—of course, it is—it’s—it’s otto of roses.”

“There, Ma! I told you so; and you would have it it was patchouli, just as if they’d sent a floral valentine with patchouli.”

“Let me smell it again, my dear. Sniff, sniff, ah! Oh! that’s roses, of course; delicious! It must have been something else that I smelt, when you gave it me before; as though anybody could mistake the smell of roses.”

No; the rose by any other name does not smell as sweet, any more than the associations that so subtly belong to certain odours can be transferred to others. For herein lies the power of the fourth sense; its marvellous connection with concealed hopes, dead aspirations, half-forgotten disappointments, sweet and sorrowful memories, unfulfilled longings, long-past troubles.

When we turn out the contents of the old drawer wherein that bundle of letters has lain, fading and yellowing, ever since the time that it was tied with the ribbon, then so bright and new, the soft, faint perfume of the dead rose-leaves is as real a presence to us as the letters themselves—equally awakens thought, and, like some strange vital essence, raises dead sentiments to life again, brings back the voice that is still, and lays upon us the touch of a vanished hand. We have all of us felt this. There are men who cannot pass a bean-field without tears; others who glide into an unseen, quiet world at the faint odour of wallflowers going to market in a cart through the busy streets. I am myself strangely susceptible to the smell of turnips, and know when I am coming to a greengrocer’s shop a street off in the nauton season.

Who cannot recall mingling with the perfume of some favourite flower the still more subtle scent of those glossy tresses, the delicate touch of that dainty hand as it held the bloom? Alone with a rose for fifteen seconds, a man might be a fool to all his senses, and, with his arm, in imagination, round some slim, rounded waist, his eyes looking for a miniature of himself in those bright mirrors that look back at him, his ears waiting for a whispered word, his lips—well, never mind; years have been bridged over youth; the ghost of youth at least has been summoned from the apparently irrevocable past; the whole being for the moment has been transformed by the influence of a poor little flower, bought perhaps of a ragged Irish girl for a halfpenny.

But there are other things to smell beside flowers; roast goose, for instance, and rivers. It is a curious speculation whether, when London’s river is purified, and the embankment is built, and a pellucid stream full of disporting fish meanders past an esplanade fronting a terrace of palaces—when, in fact, Mr. Frank Buckland and a select party are to be seen fishing for trout in a punt off Pimlico pier—people will really believe that the Thames by any other name will smell more sweet. It is worth consideration whether it would not be better to call it the Isis all the way down. J. A.

“SHADOW-TREE SHAFT.”

As our readers are already aware, the scene of Mr. T. W. Robertson’s new drama, produced last week at the Princess’s Theatre, is laid in Staffordshire, in the heart of what is now known as “the Black Country,” and at that period of the last century when plots were rife for the “Young Pretender,” and secret passages, hairbreadth escapes, and political intrigues provided our ancestors with means of excitement which have furnished modern playwrights and novelists with abundance of materials. Sir Walter Kenyon, a Baronet of an old Staffordshire family, has engaged in a Jacobite conspiracy and been committed to Newgate, from which he has contrived to escape; and with his return to the ancestral home of the Kenyons the story begins. A reward of £1000 is offered for his apprehension, the soldiers of King George are on his track, and the action of the play is occupied with devices to baffle their efforts to capture the fugitive. The first opportunity of eluding their vigilance is offered by a travelling showman, named Sampson, who externally bears a resemblance to Figg, the prize-fighter, of Hogarthian fame, and whose liberal use of Latin quotations recalls the memory of Doctor Pangloss of the days of Colman. Sampson has a pugilist’s booth at a country fair which is then on the eve of taking place, and he persuades Sir Walter to assume the dress of the “Suffolk Slogger,” who is announced to be an antagonist on the occasion. The keen eye of a miner named Richard Darkyn, however, penetrates the disguise, and with the termination of the first act we see that the Jacobite would be at once delivered up to the authorities for the sake of the tempting reward, but for the timely intervention of a fellow-miner, Michael Woodyatt, who, as Darkyn’s successful rival in the affections of a country lass, has thwarted this among other sinister designs of the revengeful Richard. In the second act Sir Walter Kenyon is concealed in a neighbouring coal-mine, where advantage is taken of a strong likeness the Baronet bears to Michael the miner to try what can be done by setting up a plea of mistaken identity. The soldiers surround the mouth of the mine. Sir Walter and Woodyatt exchange clothes, but Darkyn, who works in the pit, is again not to be deceived by the stratagem. When the fugitive Baronet ascends in the basket as the supposed miner, and thus eludes the guards, the exasperated villain contrives to enter the basket which follows with Woodyatt who has assumed the garments of Sir Walter, and in a desperate struggle stabs him with his knife. The succeeding scene represents the Black Country, at the mouth of Shadow-Tree Shaft, and the supposed Baronet dead. Darkyn, though well knowing the substitution that has been practised, and believing that he has killed his rival, yet allows the man he has murdered to be mistaken for Sir Walter Kenyon that he may claim the reward. It is at this point, which our artist has chosen for delineation, that the most ingenious situation of the dramatist is placed. Lady Kenyon, who comes to mourn over the body of her husband, is made aware by a word from Sampson of the deception that has been practised, and affects the grief of a widow

whilst rejoicing in her husband’s escape. Katie, the betrothed of Woodyatt, is compelled, on the other hand, to subdue the affection she feels at recognising the features of her lover, in order not to compromise the safety of Sir Walter Kenyon, to whose family she is strongly attached. The third act may be briefly dismissed with the intimation that Sir Walter Kenyon receives a pardon, and that Michael Woodyatt is not mortally wounded, but, through the surgical aid of the ready-handed Sampson, is restored to the arms of his faithful Katie. On the scenery the highest commendation may be unreservedly bestowed. The view of the brow of Kenyon Hill by Moonlight, with the change from the peaceful, wintry aspect of the country to the revel of a rural fair, is exceedingly effective, and the set of the Fir Coppice, with the snow-laden trees and the flakes silently falling through the air, reveals one of those realistic scenes which have been lately so much relied upon by managers and so much held in favour by the public. It is, however, the interior of a coal-mine, shown in the second act with panoramic effects, which will probably be considered the main feature of the new drama. The galleries in which the miners work, the picturesque vista of the excavation through the broad seam of coal, and the central shaft in which the bucket is seen descending and ascending with the pitmen, will be recognised as a striking stage picture of the interior of a colliery.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE French papers inform us that an “international opera house” is to be opened in Paris during this Exhibition year, which is to bring forth so many wonderful things. English opera will, it is said, be represented by “*Maritana*.”

Mdme. Schumann’s arrival in London has caused a renewal of the well-known discussion as to whether she is one of the best or one of the worst pianists of the day. The unbelievers, in the meanwhile, look on with smiles of derision, and ask, scoffingly, if there is really a perceptible difference between good and bad in music. We fancy there is; but the opinions of our chief musical critics on the subject of Mdme. Schumann’s playing may well be quoted in proof of the contrary. The light, falling in so many different directions, instead of enlightening, only confuses us. The *Times* celebrates Mdme. Schumann’s genius; the *Daily News* criticises her severely; and the *Athenaeum* condemns her outright, telling her in plain English that “the piano was made not to be pounded but to be played upon.” We quite agree with the writer in the *Athenaeum* as to the use to which the piano should be put; but the question then arises, to which of the two uses contemplated by the *Athenaeum* writer is it put by Mdme. Schumann? Shall we show ourselves at variance with the *Times* critic, who is apparently convinced that Mdme. Schumann is a great player; or with the *Athenaeum* critic, who is disposed to regard her as a mere pounder; or with the *Daily News* critic, who looks upon her execution as a mixture of playing and pounding, in which the pounding predominates?

“What,” it may be asked, “is the opinion of the public on the subject?” The public are certainly in favour of Mdme. Schumann. But then a great name in pianoforte-playing, as in politics, counts for a great deal; and many of the audience applaud in Mdme. Schumann the wife of Robert Schumann, the composer. They also applauded the former Clara Wieck, who, unless all the critics of Germany conspired to write falsely on the subject, must have been a great pianist. But her playing now is only a coarse edition of what it used to be. Her present is to her former style what an impression from an old and worn plate is to an impression from a new one. Nevertheless, Mdme. Schumann ought to be heard by those who have not yet heard her, and she now appears at St. James’s Hall twice a week.

Mr. Henry Leslie’s Mendelssohn concert was, above all, remarkable for an admirable performance of the “*Antigone*” music, which during the last twenty years has been played often enough in England, but never so well as on this occasion, when the vocal pieces were entrusted to Mr. Leslie’s choir, strengthened by a portion of the chorus of the Royal Italian Opera. The orchestra, led by Mr. Blagrove, included many of our best instrumentalists, but was scarcely strong enough for its work, and was more than once overpowered by the choral masses; the violins especially seemed weak. Miss Kate Saville recited the parts of Antigone, Ismene, Creon, Tiresias—the whole tragedy, in fact; and the music was conducted by Mr. Henry Leslie. “*Antigone*,” if any attempt be made to present it as a dramatic whole, ought, in our opinion, to be given on the stage; but, as far as the music alone is concerned, we repeat that it was never more finely performed in this country than, on Wednesday evening last, at St. James’s Hall. The version of Sophocles’ “*Antigone*” according to Mendelssohn, owes its existence to the late King of Prussia’s desire to see the Greek drama revived in something like its original form. It was easier, however, for this classical monarch to give his infantry a distant resemblance to Roman soldiers by clapping helmets on their heads than to put together the various elements which went to the composition of a Greek play (to use the word “play” in the sense of “spectacle”), so that a Greek play should really be the result. It is known that the Greek tragedies were preceded by overtures; that they contained choruses, set, in some mode or other, to music; that dances were introduced, which, without music, would have been impossible; in short, that in these representations music played a very important part. “And if (to quote from a contemporary) the choruses of *Æschylus*, *Sophocles*, and *Euripides* at Athens, and of *Ennius* and *Seneca* at Rome, inspired the fluteplayers of the period with music at all comparable to that which Mendelssohn wrote more than two thousand years afterwards in the prosaic city of Berlin for ‘*Antigone*,’ all we can say is, then so much the better for the Romans and the Athenians.”

“*Antigone*” will be repeated at St. James’s Hall next week.

FENIAN OUTBREAK IN IRELAND.—A Fenian uprising has taken place in the west of Ireland. From Kerry information has been received of numerous outrages and demonstrations. On Tuesday night the telegraph-wires about Killarney, Headford, and Valencia were cut. The shore end of the Atlantic cable was severed in several places, but it is understood to have been subsequently repaired. A mounted policeman, conveying despatches from Cahirciveen, has been shot. The rising in Killarney was to have been headed by Captain Moriarty; but, in consequence of timely information, the police were able to arrest him. Two persons, named Thomas Garde and J. D. Sheehan, were arrested at the same time. Kells police barracks, eight miles from Cahirciveen, on the Valencia road, was attacked on Tuesday night, and arms were seized. The bodies of police scattered through the rural districts and various small stations have been ordered to muster in the towns for the double purpose of preventing them from any danger of being overpowered and for the better protection of the inhabitants and property of the towns. Numbers of persons have been arrested at Dublin and other ports on the arrival of the English steamers.

DEPUTATION TO MR. GLADSTONE.—A deputation, headed by Mr. Beales, M.A., president of the Reform League; Mr. Howell, the secretary; Mr. J. J. Merriman, solicitor to the league; Mr. Ernest Jones, and numerous delegates from the provinces, waited upon Mr. Gladstone, at his private residence, Carlton-gardens, at twelve o’clock, on Monday, to present an address agreed upon by the trades delegates. The address was an expression of confidence in Mr. Gladstone’s political conduct, and disavowed any desire to pledge him to any particular course of procedure. Mr. Bright, M.P., introduced the deputation. Mr. Beales delivered a short speech, which was an echo of the address, and pointed out that at all the meetings which had been held throughout the country, his (Mr. Gladstone’s) name had always been mentioned, and had evoked the warmest expressions of approval and of sympathy for him as a man of large and generous purposes, who had been unfairly used in Parliament. Mr. Gladstone, in reply, dwelt particularly on the necessity of a settlement, but especially of a prompt settlement, of the question of Reform, and said that, unfortunately, the counter-manifestations which had taken place in the country of feeling and opinion opposed to that of the Parliament of last Session, although not only justifiable but necessary, had tended somewhat to give the country the appearance of a divided nation in the eyes of the world, and did in a certain degree tend in that direction. It was desirable, he thought—and no doubt every gentleman present agreed with that view—to remove such impressions, and to increase that tendency towards union and good feeling which had been growing up in England between all classes until lately. He said that the address took far too favourable a view, not only of his services, but of his efforts, and that, while he hoped it would not increase his own sense of them, he could assure the deputation that they might rely upon his best services to the community. The agitation gave him no ground for apprehension. He of all things desired that the problem of Reform might be worked through, and harmony restored in the nation.

THE AMERICAN YACHT HENRIETTA.

THE following correspondence between Mr. James Gordon Bennett, jun., and his Royal Highness Prince Alfred has been published.

Off Cowes, Dec. 31, 1866.

Your Royal Highness.—At Lord Lennox’s dinner on Friday last you were pleased to match your yacht the *Viking* to sail the *Henrietta* around the Isle of Wight next August, for a cup worth £100. I would not say so then, because I was bound to make the match proposed; but, in fact, this arrangement will somewhat interfere with the disposition which I had determined to make of my yacht in case she should win the ocean race. I beg that you will accept as a New Year’s gift to an English yachtsman from an American yachtsman the *Henrietta*, as she now lies in perfect order off Cowes; and I have instructed Captain Samuels to hold her subject to your orders. The unbounded hospitality with which the American yachtsmen have been received by all classes in England will always be remembered in the United States with the warmest gratitude, and I sincerely hope that you will not deprive me of the opportunity of acknowledging this most cordial reception by presenting the winning yacht to the representative of English yachtsmen.

I have the honour to remain, very respectfully, yours,

J. G. BENNETT, Jun.

Clarence House, Jan. 22, 1867.

Dear Mr. Bennett.—I find it difficult to express how gratefully I appreciate the kindly feeling which dictated your letter of the 31st ult., as well as the splendid present which you offer to my acceptance, but most of all the delicacy with which you seek to diminish the personal obligation under which you would lay me by giving to your generous offer an international character. It is, indeed, this last consideration only which has led me to hesitate in replying to your letter, for personally it would have been impossible for me to accept so costly a present, but I felt bound fully to consider the question in the light in which you were good enough to place it, and if on full consideration I feel compelled to decline your generous offer, I trust that neither you nor your countrymen at large will believe that the yachtsmen of England less appreciate, or less reciprocate, the feeling of good-fellowship which prompted the offer. The *Henrietta* is a vessel which any man may feel proud to possess, and I trust she may long continue in the hands in which she has accomplished so triumphant a success. We must try to find a rival to her, and do our best in common with all Englishmen. I sincerely hope that such friendly rivalry may be the only description of contest in which our respective countries may ever be engaged. It has given us great pleasure to offer a cordial reception to you and your companions in England, and I feel assured that if my professional duties in command of one of Her Majesty’s ships should ever take me to your shore, I should there meet on the part of my brother seamen with a reception not less hearty than that which we have been happy to afford you here.

Believe me yours, sincerely,

ALFRED.

ACCIDENT TO THE PADSTOW LIFE-BOAT.

A SHORT time ago a sad accident occurred to the Padstow life-boat, whereby the lives of five of her crew were lost; and “A Looker-on and an Old Sailor,” writing on behalf of the families of the brave fellows, gives the following graphic account of the unfortunate accident that happened to the boat:—

At about eight a.m., on the 6th inst., a vessel was reported making for Padstow harbour, which put everyone on the alert, for it was blowing a tremendous gale of wind from the N.W.—a wind often fatal to ships entering the harbour with an ebb tide. The vessel had just rounded Stepper Point in smooth water, where the captain thought himself safe, when the “flaws” of wind from the high land caught the sails aback, rendering them worse than useless; the anchors were let go, but before they brought the vessel up the strong tide making out of the harbour had swept her again seaward, dragging her anchors with her.

Then that most beautiful specimen of naval architecture the Albert Edward life-boat (kindly presented to the National Life-boat Institution by the benevolent and humane citizens of Bristol for Padstow harbour) was launched, and manned with a daring, fearless crew, thirteen in number; and conspicuous among them was Mr. Shea, the chief officer of the coast-guard, who volunteered his services as an extra man, having been many years coxswain himself, and at the saving of many lives. The remainder of the crew were Mr. Well, the coxswain, chief boatman, coastguardsmen, pilots, seamen, and others, whose strong arms were put in motion. Willing minds and warm hearts beat high with hope to save the remainder of the crew, one of whom had been washed off the deck and was drowned; for the ill-fated *Georgina* (now in pieces) had drifted on the Doom Bar in the broken sea running mountains high, and where nothing but Providence could apparently assist her.

But the life-boat, skilfully managed, nobly braved the sea. Often engulfed and lost to view by the anxious eyes watching her, but rising again on the crest of the wave, she succeeded in passing the *Georgina*, but before she could get alongside an unfortunate sea broke four oars. So disabled, the crew had no alternative but to dregge, or drogue, the boats with what a sailor would call a sheet-anchor; but this drogue is a canvas bag in the shape of a cone, with a rope fast to it, and thrown into the sea, to hold as much water as would keep a boat end on to the breakers and prevent her from capsizing. This being done, they could do no more than let the boat drift towards a spot open to the broad Atlantic, where the heavy swelling sea was rolling home with fury, and maddened into mountains of boiling foam by the resistance of the Doom Bar on one side and a bold promontory on the other, emptying itself, with all its conquered victims, into the two miles space of land between the aforementioned point and bar, and descriptively named “Hell Bay,” where many brave men have lost their lives.

But the noble life-boat, while her dregge or drogue held was perfect, seeming to defy the storm, and nobly rode on the top of the milk-white foam, a picture here awfully grand. But, alas! something had happened. The drogue had burst, and the boat no longer breasted the wave; she was tossed end over end, disgorging all her crew into the boiling foam, and for half a mile was blown on the top of the sea, and landed safely in Hell Bay minus her crew.

The men were seen at times floating on the sea in their cork jackets for about an hour; eight came on shore all but dead, but with the assistance and care of the inhabitants and medical skill they are now in a fair way of recovery.

Considering the fearful character of these life-boat services—that about 6000 persons go afloat on all occasions in the boats every year, and that during the past fourteen years the institution has only lost eighteen lives—it must be a source of congratulation to everyone that so small a percentage has been sacrificed compared with the noble service done in that period, and the large number of brave men engaged at so much hazard in the work. It may be mentioned that the National Life-boat Institution, at its meeting on the 7th inst., voted £210 in aid of the local subscription now being made for the relief of the families under the superintendence of the Rev. Richard Tyacke, Rector of Padstow, and other gentlemen in the locality.

COMMITTEE ON RITUALISM.—The committee of laymen, of which Mr. John Abel Smith is chairman, and Mr. Robert Culling Hanbury honorary secretary, have reported in favour of inviting the leading members, both lay and clerical, of the Church of England, without distinction of party, to join in a deputation to the Prime Minister for the purpose of urging upon the Government the necessity of legislation for amending the Rubric which immediately precedes the Order for Morning Prayer, and also amending the Church Discipline Act, so as to facilitate the restraining of innovations. They further recommend that the Premier should be requested to advise her Majesty to issue a commission which shall inquire into the propriety of amending the Rubric complained of, and of rendering the enforcement of Church discipline in such matters prompt and inexpensive. In the event of non-success in this application, they recommend recourse to Parliament and an address from each House to the Crown. Prosecutions of Ritualists are deprecated; and, lastly, the committee “cannot too earnestly and emphatically impress upon the conference the importance of regarding and dealing with this question in such a manner as to carry with them, in their proposed solution of the present difficulty, the largest possible number of members of the Church of England.”

THE LONDON SICK POOR.—At a meeting of the committee of the London Workhouse Infirmary Association (Earl Grosvenor, M.P., in the chair), on Monday evening—when there were present Lord Charles Bruce, M.P.; the Hon. Dudley Fortescue, M.P.; Mr. Julian Goldsmid, M.P.; Mr. Arthur Mills, M.P.; Mr. Briscoe, M.P.; Sir Walter James, Mr. Henry Goschen, Mr. J. C. Parkinson, Dr. Rogers, Dr. Anstie, Dr. Carr, and many other gentlemen—Mr. Hardy’s new bill was considered. It was moved by Mr. Ernest Hart, seconded by Lord Charles Bruce, M.P., and carried unanimously:—“That this committee recognises with great satisfaction that the bill introduced by Mr. Hardy embodies literally the greater number of suggestions which they had laid before Mr. Villiers and Mr. Hardy for the better management of the workhouse infirmaries and of the better treatment of the sick. They regret that he has not been able to place a larger number of the sick upon the common fund, with a view to relieve to a greater extent the poorer parishes, and they entertain doubts as to the successful working of the proposition for adding a proportion of unpaid nominees to the guardian boards.” On the proposition of Dr. Anstie, seconded by Mr. Briscoe, M.P., Earl Grosvenor, M.P.; Lord C. Bruce, M.P.; the Hon. Dudley Fortescue, M.P.; Mr. Davenport Bromley, M.P.; Mr. Julian Goldsmid, M.P.; Mr. Oliphant, M.P.; the Rev. Mr. MacGill, Dr. Carr, Mr. J. C. Parkinson, and the honorary officers were nominated a sub-committee to examine the clauses of the bill and report to the association before the second reading.

LAW AND CRIME.

VICE-CHANCELLOR MALINS has delivered an important judgment in the matter of the late banking company trading under the name of Overend, Gurney, and Co. Certain shareholders claim to be released from their responsibilities as contributories, upon the ground that they had been induced to take shares by fraudulent representations on the part of the promoters of the company. His Honour decided that they must remain liable until after payment of the creditors of the company, who, having been induced to give credit upon the faith of the shares taken, were entitled to consideration at least equally with the unfortunate shareholders themselves. It is reported that this decision will form the subject of an appeal. As a matter of law and equity, no contract based upon fraud by one party can be enforced by him against another; but certainly there appears to be a very obvious distinction in such case between the position of the two original parties to such a transaction and that of their relationship towards a third. This is the point taken by the Vice-Chancellor, and the result of the appeal, whatever it may be, will form an important legal precedent. But, regarding the matter from another point of view, one may reasonably inquire how it is that a great, deliberate commercial fraud, involving the probable ruin, on the one hand, of shareholders and, on the other, of creditors, alike innocent, is to be regarded chiefly as a matter for a decision by the Court of Chancery as to the adverse interests of these two parties. Why should the promoters of a gigantic swindle be less amenable to the jurisdiction of our criminal courts than if they had by false and fraudulent pretences obtained the smallest amount of money, or goods of the lowest cognisable value, from any individual?

Here is a very curious exemplification of a defect in our law upon a simple matter of debtor and creditor. A lady of position, very well known to fashionable folk, was summoned before a magistrate upon a somewhat extraordinary charge of having fraudulently obtained a receipt for certain moneys. The lady had given her cheque for a certain amount due from her for goods supplied. The payment of the cheque was subsequently stopped. The creditor resorted to a police court for recovery of the receipt. In this application he might probably have failed, since the receipt itself was without value under such circumstances. A popular impression prevails that a receipt properly signed and stamped is conclusive evidence of payment; but this is not so. The non-payment may be proved, in spite of the receipt, by evidence explaining the circumstances under which it was given, although this evidence must be stronger than that furnished by the possession of the receipt. In the case of a cheque, moreover, the cheque itself (if not honoured on due presentment) furnishes a new ground of action, the receipt being the consideration for the drawing of the cheque. In the case under notice these questions were avoided by the payment by the lady of the amount in question. It was explained that the defendant, having lost several cheques, and having forgotten this particular one, had given a general order to her bankers to stop all those outstanding. But the publication of the circumstances in the police reports had the effect of bringing forward a tradesman—a foreigner—who had supplied goods to the same lady. He had been compelled to resort to the county court for recovery of the debt due to him. The lady pleaded coverture, she having a husband living; and upon this plea she succeeded. She had been separated from her husband, and was living apart from him upon an ample allowance made to her by him through trustees. The husband maintained that, under these circumstances, he was not liable for her debts, as she had no authority whatever to pledge his credit. The creditor then applied to the trustees under the deed of separation, who, in turn, declined to pay the lady's debt. The unfortunate foreigner appeared quite bewildered by this exemplification of the English law of husband and wife. All that the magistrate could do was to observe that tradesmen should be very careful to whom they gave trust. If this were an exceptional case, it might be regarded as but of trivial importance. But it is by no means the first of the kind known to the legal profession in London. One other lady at least has long been noted for evasions practised upon creditors, even for the necessities of life, by similar means. Were the amounts in such cases large, it might be worth while to try the question at law as to the liability of the husband, or in equity to demand payment from the trustees out of the trust fund. As ordinary deeds of separation contain a covenant by the trustees with the husband, in consideration of the allowance made by him to the wife, to indemnify him against all debts contracted by the wife during separation, it is very questionable indeed whether either of these courses might not be successful. It might well be urged that the acceptance of such a covenant for indemnity would supply the place of the required authority, when taken together with the fact of the husband's permission to his wife to live apart from him. Indeed, if this were not so, what need for such a covenant at all? Why should a creditor be precluded from recovering his claim by the existence of a deed to which he is no party, of which he has received no notice, and the very existence of which he has no means of ascertaining?

Brigadier-General Nelson and Lieutenant Brand have again been examined before Sir Thomas Henry, at Bow-street, on the charge pending against them, relative to the execution of Gordon, the alleged "nigger" leader of the insurrectionists in Jamaica. A considerable quantity of documentary evidence was put in, and the accused were remanded, bail being taken for their appearance.

POLICE.

CAUTION TO THE NEEDY.—The Lord Mayor said he desired to call the attention of the press to a matter which had been brought under his notice. An advertisement had appeared headed, "Employment—Paris Exhibition," and it states that "efficient and respectable persons would be required to take charge of, attend to, and show goods, machinery, &c., of all kinds and descriptions. Parties desirous of engagements must apply at once, by letter only, inclosing a stamp for a reply, to the Directors des Employés pour l'Exposition de Paris, 1867, No. 12, Great Trinity-lane, Cannon-street, City." Inquiries were set on foot by the police, and it was found that the advertisers had taken two rooms at the address named, at three shillings per week. The rooms were empty, but numerous letters had been received for the directors of the bureau; but, pending the police inquiries, they had abandoned the occupation of the rooms. It had been found that on receiving a postage-stamp a stupendous circular was forwarded, calling for certain

questions to be answered by the applicants as to their qualifications, and requiring the payment of half a crown as a registration fee. Such tempting offers might attract many persons desirous of employment, and he mentioned the circumstance to put the public on their guard, in case the parties who had absconded from Trinity-lane might open a similar establishment in another district.

GRATITUDE.—Charlotte Devereux, a dirty-looking Frenchwoman, was charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt with assaulting Mr. William Larkin, coffee-house keeper, 26, Great Windmill-street.

Mr. Larkin said—About seven o'clock this morning the prisoner came into my shop and asked me to give her a cup of coffee. I did not like to refuse to do so, and gave it to her. After she had sat down for nearly an hour, and as it was about the time my regular customers came in, I asked the prisoner to leave. She, however, took no notice of what I said; and shortly afterwards I went and again asked her to go, and between the two occasions of my asking her to leave she had emptied a pepper-box into a piece of paper, and she slapped the paper and its contents into my face, the pepper going into my eyes and causing me great pain.

The prisoner—It was snuff.
Mr. Larkin—It was not.
Mr. Tyrwhitt—You gave her the coffee?
Mr. Larkin—Yes; seeing her poor condition.
Mr. Tyrwhitt (to the prisoner)—You are a most ungrateful, cruel person. The complainant gave you some coffee; and then, in return for his kindness, when he asked you to leave, you threw pepper in his eyes. I shall commit you for fourteen days.

A LEGAL QUESTION.—Daniel Holt and Sarah Holt, his wife, were summoned for impeding Josiah Morris, one of the officers of the West London Extension Railway Company, in the execution of his duty. Cross summonses had been taken out against the officer for an assault. This charge arose from the company having placarded their station at Kensington with printed bills, which set forth the name and address of the male defendant and the particulars of his conviction at the police court.

Mr. Dayman said he had no doubt that the placarding of such bills was very unpleasant and annoying to the defendant, and questioned very much the legality of the proceeding. If it were his case, he would either pull down the bills or bring an action against the company for a libel. He should, therefore, only impose a fine of 6d., with the costs of the summons. He dismissed the summons against the officer, as he had a right to eject anyone from the station who was not provided with a ticket for any train.

BANKRUPTCY.

IN RE JOHN ORRELL LEVER.

The bankrupt in this case was once well known as member for Galway, in which capacity he took an active part in procuring from the Government of the day a subsidy for the Galway Transatlantic steamers. He was described as of 114, Cannon-street, general agent; the adjudication being made on Oct. 31, 1866, upon the petition of Mr. T. F. Barlow, of Chance-row, Tottenham, gentleman. The act of bankruptcy was the filing by Mr. Lever of a declaration of insolvency. The claim of the petitioning creditor appears to arise in respect of thirty-one weeks' salary, at £3 per week, as clerk to the bankrupt. The proceedings were subsequently stayed until Nov. 28, 1866, upon the application of the solicitor to the inspectors under a deed of insolvency, executed by the bankrupt, the solicitors to the petitioning creditor consenting to the application. The deed appears, however, to have fallen through, and the meeting for choice of assignees was held in due course, when proofs to the amount of about £750 were admitted. The largest proof at present upon the proceedings is by Mr. G. H. Townsend, of 15, Montague-street, Russell-square, newspaper editor, for £415, being the balance of a salary of £500 a year, as editor and manager of the *Press* newspaper, of which the bankrupt was formerly proprietor.

This was the sitting for last examination and discharge, but, the statutory accounts not having been filed, an adjournment became necessary.

Mr. Linklater, for the assignees, said that, in the absence of accounts, an adjournment must necessarily take place, and the only question was for how long a period the further hearing should be postponed.

A CORONER ON COURTSHIP.—At a Coroner's inquest in Whitehall, the other day, the following extraordinary dialogue took place:—Coroner (to old man, husband of deceased): Had your wife a cough when you married her? Witness—Yaas, your. Coroner—Then how came you to be so foolish as to marry a woman with a cough? Witness (scratching his head)—I don't know, sir. I s'pose I liked her. Coroner—But why did you not have her examined by a medical man before you married her? Witness—She seemed healthy enough to I, your. Coroner—I wonder you married a woman with a cough. I think if persons contemplating matrimony were to give a surgeon a fee for a certificate certifying that the woman was of sound health, it would prevent many melancholy spectacles we are often called to witness.

A CHAPTER OF TRAGEDIES.

The *Louisville Journal* gives the details of a terrible feud which has been raging for twenty years between two families in Elizabethtown, in Carter county, Tennessee. The history of the affair is as follows:—

In the fall of 1846 a family named Johnstone moved from the county of Watauga, North Carolina, into Carter county, East Tennessee, and settled down in the neighbourhood of another family named Rogers. Johnstone, who appeared to be an energetic, industrious man, immediately went to work at clearing up a little farm. He felled trees, grubbed up undergrowth, burned stumps, and split rails to fence in the ground he reclaimed from the wilderness. In this labour he was assisted by two sons, both mere lads. While the three were engaged in erecting fencing about their patch of land, Rogers rode up to where they were at work one day and laid claim to a pile of rails, about a dozen in number. This claim Johnstone disputed; and, finally, on Rogers applying to him the epithets of "liar" and "thief," the North Carolinian pulled him from his horse and administered to him a severe chastisement with his fists. Rogers went off vowing vengeance, and in the course of an hour returned to the spot armed with a rifle, the contents of which he discharged into the body of Johnstone, producing fatal consequences. Rogers, who was a man of some wealth for those primitive times, and was possessed of considerable influence among his rough, unlettered neighbours, was acquitted of the charge of murder by an examining justice. This was the beginning of the terrible vendetta that has run through the years that followed, cutting down the males of the two families in the pride of their strength and manhood. The two Johnstone lads vowed vengeance upon the murderer of their parent, and one of them, Thomas, worked night and day but with one object in view—to accumulate means to purchase a rifle. At length he became the owner of one, and one Sabbath morning, with his gun upon his shoulder, he approached the house of Rogers. The latter was sitting in his verandah, and, as he saw young Johnstone approaching, probably divining his intention, arose hastily and started towards the rack where his own gun was suspended. But the avenger of blood was upon his path, and ere he could reach his weapon he fell upon the floor a corpse, his heart pierced by the bullet of his foe. Rogers left behind him a young wife and three children, one of whom was a boy. Among the rough backwoodsmen of Carter county young Johnstone's crime was regarded with satisfaction, if not favour, the Indian law of retaliation being looked upon by them as the very cream of justice. Afterwards Johnstone married, and as years passed by he became surrounded by an interesting and numerous progeny. The boy, William Rogers, in the mean time had almost reached manhood's estate, when one morning, without divulging his intention to his mother or sisters, he left the house with his father's rifle upon his shoulder, as if he were going out to hunt, and in less than an hour a grief-stricken mother and children were weeping over the corpse of a slain husband and

father. Young Rogers, in his turn, had become an avenger, and Thomas Johnstone fell beneath his hand. In time the memories of these three murders died away, and those who were children then grew up to men and women. William Rogers had taken to himself a wife, and become the head of a growing family. One morning he rode into Elizabethtown, and as he did not return that night—a circumstance that had never occurred before—his wife became very uneasy, and in the morning induced her brother to start to town in search of her missing husband. About three miles from the house he came upon the body of his brother-in-law, lying in the road, stiff and cold in death. His brain had been pierced by a rifle ball. Although his murderer was never discovered, yet the community quietly accepted the belief that Henry Johnstone, a son of Thomas, who was slain by Rogers, was the perpetrator of the deed. Some years after, in a drunken moment, in Elizabethtown, the young man acknowledged that he had slain Rogers, and gave as his reason that the latter had killed his father. Johnstone was a young man, and only a few months before the murder had been married to a young girl in the neighbourhood. Again the chart of time was unrolled, and at least ten years had been added to the past, when a young lad, a son of the murdered Rogers, engaged in an altercation in the yard of the courthouse at Elizabethtown with Johnstone, who was then a middle-aged man, and inflicted such wounds upon him with a knife that he died on the following morning. Thus it went on for years, now a Johnstone falling by the hands of a Rogers, and then a Rogers falling beneath the avenging hand of a Johnstone, until the war intervened, and, for a time, at least, the terrible feud appeared to have ended. The cessation of hostilities brought the survivors of the warring families back to Carter county. These survivors consisted of Randall Rogers and Robert Johnstone, both battle-scarred veterans, and both unmarried men. On the evening of Jan. 5 these two men met in a grocery at Elizabethtown, and soon became engaged in an altercation. Bystanders interfered, and for an hour or two a collision was averted. They were separated by friends, and taken off in opposite directions. This occurred about noon. About three o'clock, as Rogers was going up the street, he saw Johnstone coming down. As they neared each other they drew their revolvers, and commenced simultaneously firing upon each other, continuing to advance as they fired. Finally, and when about four feet distance from Johnstone, Rogers sank to the pavement, and, as he lay, the last act of his life was to fire the last charge in his pistol into the abdomen of Johnstone, whose last bullet, fired at the same instant, penetrated his antagonist's brain, causing instant death. Johnstone reeled and fell across the body of his foe, and when bystanders rushed to where they lay, he, too, had passed beyond the reach of mortal aid. Almost at the same instant of time their two blood-guilty souls had gone to join the gory ghosts of their ancestors. Thus ended a feud that has existed for twenty years, in the course of which fourteen men have died violent deaths.

LEECHES IN AUSTRALIA.—A trade in leeches is carried on by the Murray River Fishing Company; the fishermen, it is said, turning their attention to leeches at unfavourable seasons for the ordinary fishery. "At such times," runs the account of the enterprise, "it is customary for the steamer of the company to take a trip down the Murray 100 or 200 miles, and the leeches are then gathered from the swamps, lagoons, overflows, and shallow ana-branches of the river. From 150,000 to 250,000 leeches are sometimes collected in one of these trips. They are then packed and conveyed to Melbourne, where a large proportion of them are put up for transmission abroad. Large numbers of them are sent to London and Paris, where it is stated they are preferred to leeches brought from any other place; but the principal outlet for the export is America, where the demand is always great from the absence or rarity of the proper kind of leech throughout the whole of that great continent. The shipments of the company are made to San Francisco, Panama, and New York, whence they become distributed in all directions."

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THE transactions in National Stocks having been very moderate, the market for them has been very inactive, and the prices quoted in the previous week have not been supported. *Consols*, for money, bid at a market 99 1/2; Ditto, for time, 99 1/2; Reduced and New Three per Cent. 100 to 99 1/2; Exchange Bills, 11s. to 10s. per cent. Bank Stock has been 21 to 20 1/2. Indian Securities have been firm in price—India Stock, 214 to 210; Ditto Five per Cent. 107 1/2; Rupee paper, 102 to 103, and 102 to 103; India Bonds, 32 to 30 1/2. The supply of money is very large, and the demand for accommodation is by no means active. In the open market, the best short bills are done at 2 1/2 per cent.

The imports and exports of the precious metals have been only moderate.

There have been opened for another loan for the colony of New Zealand. The total amount applied for, out of £300,000 required, was only £47,500.

In the Market for Foreign Securities the amount of business transacted is very moderate, and the quotations, in most instances, are rather lower than last week. The leading prices are subjoined:—Brazilian Four and a Half per Cent. 85; Ditto Five per Cent. 185 7/8; Chilean Three per Cent. 73; Ditto Six per Cent. 186 7/8, scrip, 1/2 prem.; Egyptian seven per Cent. 84; Ditto, 1864, 2 1/2; Ditto, 1865, 2 1/2; Italian Five per Cent. 1865, 73 1/2; Mexican Three per Cent. 1874, 17 1/2; Peruvian Five per Cent. 1865, 60 1/2; Russian Five per Cent. 1862, 89 1/2; Ditto Three per Cent. 53 1/2; Ditto Five per Cent. 1862, 88; Ditto, 1864, 10; Ditto Anglo-Dutch, 104; Spanish Five per Cent. 1862, 14 1/2; Ditto, 1864, 14 1/2; Turkish Six per Cent. 1864, 74 1/2; Ditto, 1862, 56 1/2; Ditto Five per Cent. 1865, 30 1/2; Venezuela Six per Cent. 1864, 32; Dutch Two and a Half per Cent. 96; Dutch Four per Cent. 89; and Italian Five per Cent. 1861, 54 1/2.

United States 5-20 Bonds are firm, at 73. Other American Securities are dull. Atlantic and Great Western Unconsolidated Mortgage Bonds, 26; Erie Railway Shares, 34; and Illinois Centrales, 84.

There is a moderately active demand for Colonial Government Securities. Canada Six per Cent. have marked 100; Ditto Five per Cent. 99 1/2; Cape Six per Cent. 104; Natal Six per Cent. 99 1/2; South Wales Five per Cent. 88; Queensland Six per Cent. 92; and Victoria Six per Cent. 105 1/2.

Business in Joint-Stock Bank Shares has slightly increased. Alliance have realised 77; Anglo-Egyptian, 112; Bank of Egypt, 34; Chartered Bank, 104; Colonial Bank, 104; Egyptian Commercial, 34; India, London and China, 34; Consolidated, 55; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 104; English and Swedish, 13; Imperial Ottoman, 9 1/2-10 1/2; Land Mortgage of India, 3 1/2-10 1/2; London and Brazilian, 24; London Chartered of Australia, 74; London and County, 52; London Joint-stock, 43; London and Westminster, 94; London and Lancashire, 44; Union of Australia, 44; and Union of London, 42.

The Miscellaneous Market has continued quiet. Anglo-American Telegraphs, 10 1/2 ex div.; Atlantic Telegraph Right per Cent. Prof. 50 1/2; Berlin Warwicks, 12 1/2; Ditto New, 54; City of Moscow, 17 1/2; Credit Foncier, 97 1/2; Crystal Palace, 54; East Indian Irrigation, 34; Canal, 12; Elder Vain, 104; Egyptian Commercial and Trading, 3 1/2-10 1/2; General Credit, 52; Hudson's Bay, 10; Imperial Land Company of Mars-les, 4; Italian Irrigation—Canal Cavour, 34; London Financial, 73; National Discount, 13 1/2; Ditto, New, 11 1/2; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 66 1/2; and Victoria of Egypt Mortgage Loan, 73.

Railway Shares are flat, at lower prices. Mr. Samuel Laing has been elected deputy chairman of the Great Eastern Railway Company.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The wheat sample of English wheat on sale here this week have been disposed of at a advance in the quotations of 1s. per quarter. In foreign wheat very little business has been done. Floating cargoes of grain have been held firm. In barley very few sales have been reported, on easier terms. The malt trade has been depressed, and prices have not been supported. No change has taken place in the value of either oats, beans, or peas; but tow-mashed flour has declined to 57s. per 280 lb.

Wheat, 10s. 10s. to 10s. 10s.; barley, 5s. to 5s. 10s.; malt, 56s. to 57s. 10s. to 58s.; rye, 3s. to 3s. 10s.; beans, 30s. to 31s.; peas, 36s. to 38s. per quarter; flour, 43s. to 57s. per 280 lb.

CATTLE.—The supplies of fat stock have been only moderate, and the trade has been steady, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 4d.; mutton, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.; veal, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; and, to sink the oil.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—Most kinds of meat have moved off slowly, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; veal, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; and, to sink the oil.

TEA.—The market is quiet, at about stationary prices.

RICE.—All kinds have moved off slowly; nevertheless, the quotations have been supported. The stock amounts to 75,153 tons, against 87,150 tons at this time last year.

COFFEE.—For the most part, sales have progressed slowly, at barely late rates. Stock, 11,414 tons, against 13,967 tons in 1896.

PROVISIONS.—The butter market is inactive, at about previous rates. Bacon is in fair request, at 50s. to 60s. per cwt. for Waterford slabs. Other provisions are a dull inquiry.

TALLOW.—The market is somewhat heavy. F.Y.O. on the spot, is selling at 43s. 9d. per cwt. Stock, 36,552 casks, against 42,530 casks last year.

OILS.—Lined oil has sold slowly, at £5 10s. per cwt., on the spot. Rape is inactive, at £3 10s. to £4; and flax palm, £41. French turpentine, 36s. 6d.; American, 38s. 6d. per cwt.

SPICES.—The spirit market generally is inactive, at last week's quotations.

HAY AND STRAW.—Meadow hay, 43 to 44s.; clover, 41 to 42 1/2s.; and straw, 11 1/2s. to 12s. per load.

COALS.—Newcastle, 16s. 6d. to 17s.; Sunderland, 16s. 6d. to 19s.; other qualities, 15s. 9d. to 19s. per ton.

HOPE.—The demand for all kinds is in a sluggish state, yet prices are supported. The quotations range from £2 10s. to £11 10s. per cwt.

WOOL.—The next public sales of colonial wool will be commenced on the 28th inst. About 80,000 bales have already arrived.

FABRICS.—The supplies are on the increase, and the demand is somewhat heavy, at from 100s. to 150s. per ton.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—J. MAYOR, Worksop.
BANKRUPT.—A. H. DURANT, Nottingham, retired military officer.—L. E. PHILLIPS, Belvidere, governors.—J. TODD, South Harnsey, licensed victualler.—J. R. WALKER, Forest-hill, tailor.—W. DABRY, Hackney-road, beerhouse-keeper.—K. C. WHITWASH, Blackfriars-road, saddler.—J. G. HARRISCHKE, Spitalfields, general commission agent.—J. A. LALING, Brompton, estate-dealer.—J. KENNEDY, Stratford, F. E. MEDCALF, Aldgate, street, furrier.—W. D. BEAR, Norwich, clerk in holy orders.—G. F. FISHER, Wandsworth-road, retailer of beer.—M. A. GUY, Clerkenwell, boarding-house keeper.—E. BOYES, Chertsey, blacksmith.—G. HEWITT, Brentford, blacksmith.—G. LEMON, Fenchurch-street, J. JENKINS, Swansea, licensed victualler.—A. L. WINSOM, Croydon West, baker.—C. G. HAMILTON, Winchester, teacher of music.—T. A. COOK, Great Queen-street, vocalist.—W. P. HENSHAW, sen., Motherton, lighterman.—M. H. DOUGHTY, Blackfriars-road, chemist.—C. ROOKE, Blanford Forum, cooper.—G. MAXWELL, Haslemere, road, confectioner.—G. H. HARRIST, Westminster, attorney-at-law.—H. WINTER, Aldgate, clothier.—J. DUMFREY, H-mondsey, leather dealer.—K. GEE, Canterbury, scrivener.—L. SHLEPPARD, Hyde Park-street, servant.—T. J. H. HAWKINS, Portland-road, clerk.—W. HARDING, Islington, baker.—G. RICHARDSON, Lissen-grove, F. LINTHARD, Newington-butts, fishmonger.—J. POORE, Bow, chessmonger.—G. BALLARD, Fordingbridge, cabinetmaker.—T. BAKER, Old Kent-road, butcher.—J. H. SPENCER, Hastings.—J. LUMSDEN, Pitt-street, Fitzroy-square.—A. PANTING, Oxford-gate, W. WARBURTON, Leicester, commission agent.—W. HOLLIES, Jun., Halesowen, butcher.—E. HOWARD, Swansea, auctioneer.—J. H. BAKER, Bristol, J. B. ROBINSON, Southey, carpenter, Wittenhall, iron merchant.—G. FARMER, jun., Aston, machinist.—J. FARNOLD, Leicester, ironboulder.—J. TUCKER, Cardiff, steam-proprietor.—J. JONES, Cardiff, licensed victualler.—R. GLENN, Wiltshire, publisher.—J. DYER, St. Austell, grocer.—J. DENMAN, Bridgewater, innkeeper.—H. ELLIS, Victoria, draper.—J. H. DAWSON, Great Grimby, grocer.—POLLIAT, Heywood, cotton-spinner.—R. B. MELBOURNE, Kingston-on-Hull, theatrical manager.—P. A. HOLZBERG and B. BOWEN, Liverpool, merchants.—J. H. GALLAGHER, Liverpool, slater.—R. G. and A. LEBG, Broadside shed, cotton manufacturers.—R. G. JONES, Sunderland, dentist.—J. H. ROSE, Leicester, carpenter, drapery.—G. J. BARRY, Seaham Harbour, beerhouse-keeper.—W. HUNTER, Aston, gunmaker.—W. MARSH, Portree, grocer.—G. UNDERHILL, Birmingham.—W. WATSON, Huddersfield.—T. GILES, Farnham, plasterer.—J. HAYNES, Isle of Wight, general agent.—J. R. AMELT, London, grocer.—W. COOPER, E. NORTH, King's-horn, butcher.—J. JULL, Oatlands, painter.—J. J. LANGDALE, Swindon, cabinetmaker.—T. TIER, christchurch, innkeeper.—C. J. B. JACKSON, Pontypool, auctioneer.—W. BUCKTHORPE, St. Ender, mine agent.—W. HUNTING, Dorking, baker.—W. LAWS, Ely, innkeeper.—E. HOWARD, Halesowen, J. B. ROBINSON, Southey, carpenter, Wittenhall, colour-maker.—O. LYTTON, Hulse, cabinetmaker.—J. WASHINGTON, Salford, grocer.—F. SMAR, Lower Broughton, teacher of writing.—G. and D. M'WHAN, Middleborough-on-Tees, grocer.—E. RICKETSON, Hasley, grocer.—J. BALL, Hants, butcher.—G. MAXWELL, Haslemere, road, confectioner.—C. T. SULLING, Ipswich, brushmaker.—J. H. ROSE, Leicester, carpenter, drapery.—S. SMITH, Leicester, cabinetmaker.—P. LEBG, Conington, innkeeper.—J. LOCKETT, Denton, beer retailer.—J. DUCKWORTH, New Brighton, timber merchant.—J. S. MUIR, Tranmere, accountant.—J. FLETCHER, Race file, power-iron overlooker.—W. DAX, Lutterworth, J. L. LAMLEY, Lutterworth, J. H. BOOTE, Lutterworth, Nottingham.—H. KINSTON, Brighton, eating-house keeper.—W. BENSHAW, Mansfield, butcher.—D. WALDO K. Bald, ck, commission agent.—S. WHILE, Old-hill.—W. H. EATON, Milton Abbas, tailor.—T. JONES, Cwmbran, beerhouse-keeper.—J. POOL, Ipswich, beerhouse-keeper.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—J. PHILLIPS, Duke-street, Blackfriars, rag merchant.

BANKRUPT.—T. LAWRENCE, South Hackney, bricklayer.—J. PHILLIPS, Aldgate, fruit merchant.—G. HILL, City, wine housekeeper.—C. NORTON, Cufford St. Mary, plumber.—G. and E. HERRICKSON, Hoxton, tripeders.—N. GRACEY, Gravesend, earthenware-dealer.—J. GILLETTE, Hampton, farmer.—J. A. HOWROFF, Drury-lane.—M. BUNO, jun., Farnham Royal.—A. H. KENT, Mile-end, tailor.—W. WHEATLAND, E. East-hill, labourer.—J. H. HARRIS, Richmond-road, J. H. HARRIS, INKERN, Reigate, blacksmith.—W. BACON, Manchester.—J. NIGHTINGALE, South Hackney, dealer in china.—C. G. NELSON, Hotham-lane, shipowner.—F. NUTTYCOMBE, Netting-hill, bootmaker.—J. L. FRY, Peckham, commission agent.—H. WILKINSON, Dalston, J. L. LAMLEY, Lutterworth, J. H. BOOTE, Lutterworth, Nottingham.—H. KINSTON, Brighton, eating-house keeper.—W. BENSHAW, Mansfield, butcher.—D. WALDO K. Bald, ck, commission agent.—S. WHILE, Old-hill.—W. H. EATON, Milton Abbas, tailor.—T. JONES, Cwmbran, beerhouse-keeper.—J. POOL, Ipswich, beerhouse-keeper.

SCOTCH REQUESTIONS.—J. MACDONALD, Glasgow, tailor.—J. GRAVENS and CO, Glasgow, metal-rehabilitants.—P. LLOYD, Glasgow, artist.—T. STEWART, Kenton, grocer.—H. BARTON and CAMPBELL, Dundee, bottlers.—R. KIRK, Argyll, Kirkcubright.—G. LEVACK, Edinburgh, spirit merchant.—J. TYRIS and CO, Glasgow, wool merchants.—D. RICHARDSON, Leith, grocer.

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HEALTH WITHOUT MEDICINE. DR BARRY'S Delicious REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD cures dyspepsia, indigestion, cough, asthma, consumption, debility, constipation, diarrhoea, palpitation, nervous, bilious, liver, and other complaints. Cure No. 64, 11s.—"Rome, July 31, 1866." The health of the Holy Father is excellent, especially since, abandoning all other remedies, he has confined himself entirely to Dr Barry's Food, and his Holiness cannot praise this excellent food too highly."—Gazette de Med. Du Barry and Co., No. 77, Regent-street, London, W. In case, 1s. 1d.; 12s. 6d.; 21s. 6d.; 42s. 6d. Sold by all Grocers and Chemists.

DR. DE JONGHE'S LIGHT-BROWN COD-LIVER OIL.

Invariably pure, palatable, and easily taken. Prescribed as the safest and most efficient remedy for CONSUMPTION, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, COUGHS, AND DEBILITY OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN. Pronounced by the highest medical authorities to be the most palatable and superior to every other kind. Sold ONLY in capsules IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 9s.; by respectable Chemists throughout the world. SOLE IMPORTERS, ANSAR, HARBOLD, and CO., 77, STRAND, LONDON.

DAVY'S ORIGINAL DIAMOND CEMENT! An invaluable Preparation for joining broken China, Glass, Earthenware, Woods, Cabinetwork, and Fancy Articles of every description, with extreme strength and neatness; remarkable for its great facility of using it. As there are several disreputable imitations of the Diamond Cement, the public can avoid failure and disappointment only by strict caution in purchasing none without the signature, "D. Davy," on the wrapper. N.B. Manufactured by BARCLAY AND SONS, No. 95, Farringdon-street. Price 1s. per bottle.

Now ready, post-free, Patterns of New **EARLY SPRING DRESSES.** Just received, a vast collection of British and Foreign Novelties suitable for the present and approaching Seasons, at prices ranging from 14s. 6d. to 50s. the Extra Full Dress. PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street, W.

TULLE, TARTAN, AND GRENADINE EVENING AND BALL DRESSES. Washing Grenadine Dresses, Pure White, 7s. 9d. to 14s. 9d. New Tartans, in every variety of Colour and Design, 10s. 6d. and 12s. 9d. Extra Full Dress. Rich Silk Grenadines, Plain, Striped, and Broché, all Colours. Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street.

SPECIAL SALE OF SILKS. PETER ROBINSON invites special attention to several cases of Plain and Fancy Silks, purchased in Paris and Lyons during the recent monetary crisis, the whole of which are now being sold.

CASE NO. 1. comprises a beautiful collection of richly-coloured Striped Glaces, particularly suitable for Young Ladies. Prices, at from 24s. to 3s. the Full Dress of 14 yards; or any length will be cut.

CASE NO. 2. comprises some beautiful specimens of Chêné Silks, in great variety of Design and Colouring, and amongst which will be found Dresses specially suitable for Evening Wear and the coming Spring Costume. Prices, at from 34s. to 4s. the extra Robe of 16 yards.

CASE NO. 3. comprises 300 pieces of very rich Corded and Plain Silks, amongst which will be found a splendid assortment of Light Colours for Evening Wear, the whole of which will be found decidedly cheap.

NEW SILKS FOR 1867. Every description of Plain and Fancy Silks, Moire Antiques, and Satins of the Newest Designs and Colouring, produced expressly for this season, are now ready for inspection. Ladies who cannot make a personal inspection will be supplied with Patterns post-free on application. Peter Robinson, 103 to 105, Oxford-street, W.

AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES. **SEAL FUR PALETOTS** and Real Astrakhan Paletots. The entire remaining Stock of the above beautiful and fashionable Jackets and Paletots will be sold at very reduced prices; many of them as low as 5s.

All warranted picked skins. PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street. The Illustrated Manual of Present Fashions gratis and post-free.

WATERPROOF MANTLES. Indispensable Articles, 21s.; with Black and Grey Skirts, 2s.; with large Cape, 3s. 6d.; lined Indiarubber, 3s.; PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street. The Illustrated Manual of Present Fashions gratis and post-free.

FAMILY MOURNING. made up and trimmed in the most correct and approved taste, may be obtained at the most reasonable prices. PETER ROBINSON. Goods are sent free of charge, for collection, to all parts of Great Britain (with drawback, if desired) upon receipt of letter, order, or telegram; and Patterns are sent, with Book of Illustrations, to all parts of the world. The Court and General Mourning Warehouse, 256 to 262, Regent-street, London. The largest Mourning Warehouse in Europe. PETER ROBINSON.

THE BEST BLACK SILKS always on Sale. Good Useful Black Silks, from 2s. to 50s. the Dress; Superior and most enduring Qualities, from 24s. to 9s.; or by the yard, from 2s. 11d. to 10s. 6d. Patterns free. PETER ROBINSON. Black Silk Mercer by Appointment, 256 to 262, Regent-street, London.

REVERSIBLE FABRICS in BLACK. Exactly alike on both sides. Patterns free. PETER ROBINSON'S FAMILY MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 256 to 262, Regent-street.

NOTICE.—THE MUCH APPROVED IMPERIAL UNSPOTTING CRAPE is to be obtained at PETER ROBINSON'S Family Mourning Warehouse, of Regent-street.

CHAS. AMOTT AND CO., SAINT PAUL'S, are now Selling 400 Pieces of Wines, 20 in. wide, 1s. per bunch, 1s. 9d. 11,200 yards of good Dress Materials, 5s. 11d. to 15s. 6d.; originally 12s. 9d. to 30s. £2000 worth Linens, Calicoes, and Cottons at the prices of 1860. (These goods are very cheap.) Catalogues of the entire Stock free. 61 and 62, St. Paul's, London.

CHAS. AMOTT AND CO., SAINT PAUL'S, are now selling 500 Ball Dresses, 14s. 9d. and 15s. 9d. These goods are quite fresh. 61 and 62, St. Paul's, London.

CHAS. AMOTT AND CO., SAINT PAUL'S, are now selling 1900 Elegant Jackets, Novel and Ladylike, 6s. 11d. to 21s. each; actual value from 15s. to 25s. 600 Velvet and Velveteen Jackets, 11s. 9d. to 4s.; worth from 3s. to 4s. Real Grebe and Canadian Muffs, 3s. 11d. to 12s. 6d.; actual value, 12s. 6d. to 30s. A Sample Box to the country free. 61 and 62, St. Paul's, London.

MOIRE ANTIQUES. SEWELL AND CO. have bought, at a large discount from the cost price, a beautiful Stock of RICH MOIRE ANTIQUES, and will sell them at the following extraordinary prices—viz., 3s. 4d. and 4s. 6d. the Full Dress; usual price, 5s. to 8s. 6d. Compton House, Fritch-street and Old Compton-street, Soho-sq., W.

FRENCH MUSLIN DRESSES. SEWELL AND CO. are now offering 500 FRENCH MUSLIN DRESSES, at 9s. 6d. the Dress; worth 21s. Also, a large lot of Silk Grenadines, Mousseline de Soie, and Barège Anglaises. All these goods are reduced to less than half price. Compton House, Old Compton-street and Fritch-street, Soho-sq., W.

SILKS, VELVETS, and TERRYS, suitable for Evening and Walking Dresses; rich Silks in black and coloured, from 1s. 11d. to 6s. 11d. per yard. 5s. 11d. Terrys (colours only) at 1s. 4d. per yard; 9s. 9d. and 10s. 9d. Lyons Terrys (ditto) at 2s. 11d. per yard. 10s. 9d. and 12s. 9d. Lyons Velvets (colours only) at 2s. 11d. and 3s. 11d. per yard; with a large parcel of rich Spitalfields Velvets, extra wide, at 6s. 11d. per yard; worth 12s. 9d. 1000 Jackets, this season's goods, 3s. 4d. to 6s. 11d., are now selling at T. SIMPSON AND COMPANY'S, 48, 49, 50, and 51, Farringdon-street, City.

W. F. THOMAS AND CO.'S New Patent SEWING-MACHINES, producing work alike upon both sides, 25s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. Chapsdale, and Regent-circus, Oxford-st., W.

PESTACHIO NUT HAIR OIL (PIESSE and LUBIN'S).—The beauty of the raven tresses of the Spanish ladies has excited the admiration of every visitor to Madrid. No other hairdressing fluid is used but the expressed Oil of Pestachio Nut, which is as common here with the mountain peasant as the Court beauty. 2s. 6d. bottles; Pestachio Nut Toilet Powder, 2s. 6d. box. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers, and by Druggists and Grocers everywhere.

FRAGRANT SOAP.—The celebrated FRUITED SERVICE TABLET is famed for its delightful fragrance and beneficial effect on the skin. Manufactured by J. C. and J. FIELD, Patents of the Self-fitting Candle. Sold by Chemists, Oil and Italian Warehousemen, and others. Use no other. See name on each tablet.

THE PHARMACOPEIA. Second Edition. (p. 186) of the Translation of the Pharmacopoeia of the Royal College of Physicians of London, by Dr. G. F. Collier, published by Longman and Co. "It is no small defect in this compilation (speaking of The Pharmacopoeia) that we have no purgative mass but what contains aloes; yet we know that hemorrhoidal persons cannot bear aloes except it be in the form of CUCKER'S PILLS, which chiefly consist of aloes, scammony, and only a small quantity of castor oil, into a sort of compound extract, the acidity of which is obviated, I suspect, by an alkaline process, and by a fourth ingredient (unknown to me) of an aromatic tonic nature. I think no better and no worse of it for its being a patent medicine. I look at it as an article of commerce and domestic convenience, and do not hesitate to say it is the best made pill in the kingdom: muscular purgative, a mucous purge, and a hydropic purge combined, and their effects properly controlled by a diligent and corrigent. That it does not commonly produce hemorrhoids, like most aloetic pills, I attribute to its being thoroughly soluble, so that no undissolved particles adhere to the mucous membrane."

EXTRAORDINARY SALE of SILKS, at BAKER and CRISP'S, 108, Regent-street.

CHEAP SILKS, at BAKER and CRISP'S. Striped, Checked, and Plain. Black, Figured, and Corded. Pink, Sky, and White. 21s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. Full Dress. Patterns free.—108, Regent-street.

BAKER and CRISP'S, the Cheapest House in London for SILKS. Chinese Silks, very bright .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Full Dress. Japanese Silks (a specialty) .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Irish Poplins, all Colours .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Silks for Young Ladies .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Silks for Evening Wear .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Silks for Wedding Wear .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Silks for Dinner Wear .. 21s. 3d. 6d. Patterns free.—108, Regent-street.

BAKER and CRISP'S NOTED GOOD BLACK SILKS. Patterns free. Black Glaces and Gros Grains, Black Corded and Figured, Black Drop de France, and all warranted the best makes, from 1 to 3s. 108, Regent-street.

PATTERNS POST-FREE. **BAKER and CRISP'S NEW CAMBRICS.** Baker and Crisp's New Brilliants. Baker and Crisp's New Jacquets. Baker and Crisp's New Moires. Baker and Crisp's New Spring Mohair. Baker and Crisp's New Spring Camlets. Baker and Crisp's New Spring Poplins. Baker and Crisp's New Spring Alpaca. Baker and Crisp's New Spring Pique. The Largest and Best Assortment in the Kingdom, at most economical prices. 108, Regent-street.

LAST YEAR'S MUSLINS. Barège, Balzarine, &c., &c., half the original cost. Patterns free. BAKER and CRISP'S.

BAKER and CRISP'S REMNANT DAY now altered to FRIDAY. Remnants of Silks, Dress Fabrics, &c., every Friday Morning, at absurd prices.

NEW SPRING SILKS. MESSRS. NICHOLSON and CO. beg to inform their Customers in Town and Country that they have just received a large delivery of New Silks for Spring bought, during the late depressed state of the Lyons market, much under value. Ladies residing in the country can have Patterns representing £10,000 worth of silks to select from, post-free. Nicholson and Co., 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard, London.

NICHOLSON'S NEW SPRING SILKS. Patterns of £10,000 worth, post-free. 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NICHOLSON'S WEDDING SILKS. Patterns of £10,000 worth, post-free. 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NICHOLSON'S DINNER SILKS. Patterns of £10,000 worth, post-free. 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NICHOLSON'S BLACK SILKS. Patterns of £10,000 worth, post-free. 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

DO YOU WISH YOUR CHILDREN WELL DRESSED?—Boys' Knickerbocker Suits, in Cloth, from 15s. 9d.; Useful School Suits, from 12s. 6d. Patterns of the cloth, directions for measurement, and 45 engravings of new dresses, post-free.—NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

SPECIAL SILK PURCHASE for immediate use. Black Figured Gros Grains, 23s. 6d., 14 yards. Patterns free. This special lot (50 new Patterns) very cheap. JOHN HARVEY and SONS, 60, Ludgate-hill.

DURING THIS MONTH. JAMES SPENCE and Co. will offer the remaining part of their WINTER STOCK at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES; together with several very Cheap Lots of Spring Goods, purchased under favourable circumstances. Following is a list of the principal Departments, viz.:

Aberdeen Winceys Pure Hosiery French Merinos Fancy Dresses Made-up Dresses Flannels Haberdashery, &c. Ladies and the Public are invited to make an early visit of inspection. James Spence and Co., Wholesale and Retail Silkmercers, Drapers, &c., 75, 77, and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard, London.

N.B. Visitors are reminded that St. Paul's is within five to ten minutes' walk of the principal railways which have now extended their lines to the City.

BLACK SILKS! BLACK SILKS! BELLI EVANS and CO.'S GREAT SALE OF BLACK SILKS, will continue on MONDAY, the 19th inst., and during the Week. Good bright Black Glaces, 1 guinea the Dress of 12 yards; 100 Pieces of rich Black Italian Silk are marked 1s. 11d., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d., 3s. 9d., 4s. 11d., and 5s. 9d.; a large parcel of Gros Grain, Bugeat, Drop de France, and Drop de Lyon, at 2s. 11d., 3s. 4d., 3s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 5s. 11d., and 6s. 9d. These Silks are much cheaper than any yet offered in England, and worthy of special notice. Patterns free. Likewise, 30 Pieces of Striped Poplins, at 5s. 11d. the Dress of 12 yards, usual price 15s. 9d.; 40 Pieces of real Scotch Wincey, 32 in. wide, 18d. Patterns free. Ellis Evans and Co., 102, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater, W.

ALEXANDER'S KNITTING-COTTON is marvellously cheap, and the quality is very superior. All knitters should try it; it is sure to please. Sold by all retail Haberdashers.

A WAY WITH THIMBLES, and try the PATENT DOUBLE POINTED AND EASY SEWING NEEDLE. It saves Time, Needle, Thread, and Patience. "These needles really possess all the qualities claimed for them, and the wonder is that a discovery so simple and so important had not been made till these latter days."—Birmingham Daily Post, Dec. 30, 1865. Manufactured by the Patentees, Messrs. HAYES, CROSSLEY, and BENNETT, Excelsior Works, Alcester. Sold by all Drapers and Haberdashers. Four Sample Packets containing 100 post-free for 13 stamps.

THOMSON'S "GLOVE-FITTING" CORSETS. An entirely new principle, with new Spring Fastening. Manufacturers of the Prize-Medal Corset. Trade mark, a "Crown."

SECURITY AGAINST LOSS AND MISTAKE. Mark your Linen with BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK, by far the best and blackest for marking Crests, Names, and initials upon household linen, wearing apparel, &c. Price 1s. per bottle.—Prepared only by BOND, 19, Bishopsgate-street Within, London; and sold by all respectable Chemists, Stationers, &c., in the Kingdom.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES, which are daily recommended by the Faculty. Testimonials from the most eminent of whom may be seen. Sold in boxes, 1s. 1d.; and tins, 2s. 9d.—T. Keating, 75, St. Paul's-churchyard, London.

COD-LIVER OIL from Newfoundland, first delivery, and finest imported this season, by THOMAS KEATING, 75, St. Paul's-churchyard, E.C. Sold in bottles; half-pint, 1s. 6d.; pint, 2s. 9d.; quart, 5s., imperial measure.

CORNS AND BUNIONS.—A Gentleman, many years tormented with Corns, will be happy to afford others the information by which he obtained their complete removal in a very short period, without pain or any inconvenience. Forward address on a stamped envelope, to F. Kingston, Esq., Chesham, Surrey.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA, the best remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion; and as a mild aperient for delicate constitutions, Ladies, Children, and Infants. At 172, New Bond-street, London; and by all Chemists.

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN. Everyone should therefore provide against them. £1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, or 25s. per Week while Laid up by Injury, caused by ACCIDENT OF ANY KIND, may be secured by an Annual Payment of 2s. to 4s. 6d. to the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY, 64, Cornhill; and 10, Regent-street, London. WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

GARDNERS' LAMPS. GARDNERS' CHANDELIERS. GARDNERS' DINNERS SERVICES. GARDNERS' DRAWING-ROOM CLOSER. GARDNERS' TABLE GLASS. GARDNERS' PLATED GOODS.

GARDNERS', 453 and 454, STRAND, Four Doors from Trafalgar-square. Illustrated Catalogue post-free.

THE MAGNETIC POCKET TIMEKEEPER and COMPASS, in handsome case, glass shade, steel and German silver works, compensated balance, enamelled dial. Works day and night. Sound and serviceable. Two years' warranty with each. For free, packed in wood box, for 18 stamps, 30 stamps; three, 40 stamps.—SMITH and CO., Watchmakers, 2, Catherine-terrace, Holland Park-road, Kensington, London.

THE MAGIC DONKEYS.—Roars of Laughter.—These wonderful Animals go through their extraordinary evolutions daily, at 252, Strand, from Ten till Six. The pair sent post-free, with instructions, for fourteen stamps.—H. G. CLARKS and CO., 252, Strand.

SAFE INVESTMENTS FOR CAPITAL. Paying 10 per cent per annum in Dividends on the outlay. SHARP'S INVESTMENT CIRCULAR (post-free) should be consulted by shareholders and the public before investing. It is a safe, valuable, and reliable guide.—Office, 33, Foultry, London, E.C.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE with the best Articles at DEANE'S IRONMONGERY and FURNISHING WAREHOUSE. Established A.D. 1709. New Illustrated Catalogue with Priced Furnishing List gratis and post-free. Deane and Co., 40, King William-street, London Bridge.

The DUTY being REDUCED, **HORNIMAN'S TEA** is EIGHTPENCE CHEAPER. Agents—Confectioners in London; Chemists, &c., in every town. As protection against imitations, genuine packets are signed, Horniman & Co.

CHOCOLAT-MENIER, for Breakfast.

CHOCOLAT-MENIER, for Eating.

CHOCOLAT-MENIER, Pure, wholesome, and delicious. Consumption exceeds 5,000,000lb.

MENIER'S FRENCH CHOCOLATE Warehouse, 23, Henrietta-st., Strand, London. Sold everywhere.

Makers to the Queen and Prince of Wales. **FRY'S CHOCOLATE CREAMS** are an exceedingly delicious Sweetmeat, rapidly increasing in public favour.

BREAKFAST—EPPS'S COCOA (more commonly called Epps's Homoeopathic Cocoa, as being prepared and introduced by Jas. Epps, the Homoeopathic Chemist first established in England). The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favourite. For breakfast, no other beverage is equally invigorating and sustaining.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY, DUBLIN EXHIBITION, 1865.—This celebrated old Irish Whisky gained the Dublin Prize Medal. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 8s. 6d. each, at the retail price in London; by the agents in the principal towns in England or elsewhere, at 4, Great Windmill-street, London, W.—Observe the red seal, pink label, and branded cork, "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

ALLSOPP'S PALE and BURTON ALES. The above Ales are now being supplied in the finest condition, in Bottles and in Casks, by FINDLATER, MACKIE, TODD, and CO., at their New London Bridge Store, London Bridge, E.C.

RIMMEL'S New Perfumed VALENTINES. Animated Flowers, Marine, Medieval, Pictorial, all 1s.; by post for 14 stamps. An immense variety, from 6d. to 45d. Lists on application.—95, Strand; 118, Regent-street; and 24, Cornhill.

PURVEYORS TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES. **GREENFIELD PATENT STARCH,** EXCLUSIVELY USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY, and awarded the Prize Medal.

BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR, for Children's Diet.

SLEA and FERRIS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE, pronounced by Connoisseurs to be "The only Good Sauce." None genuine without name on wrapper, label, bottle, and stopper. Sold by Grocers and Blackwell, Barclay and Sons, and Grocers and Oilmen universally.

PURE PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, and Table Delicacies of the highest quality (See "Lancet" and Dr. Hare's Report) may be obtained from all Grocers and Oilmen, and Wholesale of the Manufacturers, CROSS and BLACKWELL, Purveyors to the Queen, SOHO-SQUARE, LONDON.

TONIC BITTERS. Unrivalled stomachic stimulant, palatable and wholesome, is Sold by Grocers, Oilmen, Confectioners, &c., at 30s. a dozen. Manufactured by WATERS and WILLIAMS, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London.

BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH, Easton-road, London. SYNOPSIS OF THE HYGIENIC OR MORISONIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.

1. The vital principle is in the blood.
2. Everything in the body is derived from the blood.
3. All constitutions are radically the same.
4. All diseases arise from impurity of the blood.
5. Pain and disease have the same origin.
6. From the intimate connection subsisting between mind and body, the health of the one must conduce to the serenity of the other.
7. Proper vegetable purgation is the only medicinal mode for